THE LIFE OF SIR JOHN SUCKLING.

With a fine Portrait of that Author, by Hopwood.

SIR John Suckling was the ſon of of ſir John Suckling, one of the ſecretaries of ſtate and comptroller of the houſehold to king Charles 1. His biographers fix the time of his birth in 1612-13, at Witham, in Eſſex, but Mr. Lyſons finds the record of a chriſtening which he ſuppoſes to be his in the regiſter of Twickenham. 'John, ſon of Mr. John Suckling, baptized February 10, 1608-9,' and Mr. Lyſons adds, that his father reſided at Whitton, in the pariſh of Twickenham, which ſeat our poet afterward poſſeſſed. Langbaine confirms this, although he writes *Witham*, in Middleſex, and makes ſir John not to be born till 1631. Perhaps the latter may be a typographical error.

It is recorded as a remarkable thing, that his mother went till the eleventh month of him; the flowneſs of his birth, however, was ſufficiently made up by the quickneſs, ſtrength, and fertility of his genius. He firſt diſcovered a ſtrong propenſity to languages, inſomuch that he is ſaid to have ſpoken Latin at five years of age, and to have written it at nine. From his early foundation in languages, he proceeded in the courſe of his ſtudies, and became accompliſhed in polite literature. He cultivated muſic and poetry, and excelled in a great degree in both; for though he had a vivacity and ſprightlineſs in his nature which would not ſuffer his attention to be long confined, yet he had made ample amends for this by ſtrength of genius and quickneſs of apprehenſion. When he was grown up, he travelled into foreign countries, where he made a collection of their virtues and accompliſhments, without any tincture of their vices and follies; only ſome thought he had a little too much of the French air, which, however, was perhaps rather natural, than acquired in him; the eaſineſs of his carriage and addreſs being ſuitable to the openneſs of his heart, and to that gayety, wit, and gallantry, which were the characteriſtics of his nature. In the mean time he ſeems to have affected nothing more than the character of a courtier and a fine gentleman; which he ſo far attained, that he was allowed to have the peculiar happineſs of making every thing he did become him.

Yet he was not ſo devoted to the muſes, or to the ſoftneſs and luxury of courts, not ſo much 'the delight of the courts, and the darling of the muſes,' as Winſtanley ſays of him, as to be wholly a ſtranger to the camp. In his travels, he made a campaign under the great Guſtavus Adolphus, where he was preſent at three battles, five ſieges, and ſeveral ſkirmiſhes, and at his return, raiſed a ſplendid troop of horſe, at the expence of twelve thouſand pounds, for the ſervice of king Charles 1, then unhappily engaged in a war againſt the parliamentary faction. But this troop, with ſir John at its head, behaved ſo ill in the engagement with the Scots, upon the Engliſh borders in 1639, as to occaſion the famous lampoon by ſir John Mennis, 'Sir John, he got him an ambling nag,' &c. which was ſet to an Iriſh tune, and much ſung by the parliamentarians. This diſaſtrous expedition, and the ridicule that attended it, was ſuppoſed to have haſtened his death, which happened in 1641, in the thirty-third year of his age, if the date of his birth as we have rectified it, be juſt; his biographers ſay the twenty-eighth.

In this ſhort time, he had done enough to procure him the love and eſteem of all the politeſt men who converſed with him, but as he had ſet out in the world with all the advantages of birth and perſon, education, parts and fortune, he had raiſed people's expectation of him to a prodigious height; and if his character does

not appear enough diſtinguiſhed in the hiſtory of thoſe times, it can be aſcribed to nothing but the immaturity of his death, which did not allow him time for action. Dryden calls him a ſprightly and a courtly writer. Mr. Lloyd ſays that his poems are clean, ſprightly and natural; his diſcourſes full and convincing; his plays well-humoured and taking; his letters fragrant and ſparkling. He obſerves farther, that his thoughts were not ſo looſe as his expreſſions, nor his life ſo vain as his thoughts, and at the ſame time makes an allowance for his youth and ſanguine complexion, which would eaſily have been rectified by a little more time and experience. Of this we have inſtances in his occaſional diſcourſe about religion to my lord Dorſet, to whom he had the honour to be related, and in his thoughts on the poſture of affairs in the ſtate addreſſed to Mr. Jermyn, afterward earl of St. Albans; in both which he has diſcovered, that he could think as coolly, and reaſon as juſtly, as men of more years, and leſs fire. Mr. Lloyd alſo beſtows a warm eulogium on him, in Latin, in conſequence of ſome ſentences of religion and morality, which he delivered to his friends in the time of his ſickneſs.

Sir Thomas Pope Blount has theſe remarks on him; 'Winſtanley ſays, that ſir John Suckling, in his time, the delight of the court, and darling of the muſes, was one ſo filled with Phœbean fire, as for excellency of wit, was worthy to be crowned with a wreath of ſtars; though ſome attribute the ſtrength of his lines to ſavour more of the *grape* than the *lamp*. Indeed he made poetry his recreation, not his ſtudy; and did not ſo much ſeek fame, as it was put upon him. In my mind, ſays Winſtanley, he gives the beſt character of himſelf, in thoſe verſes of his in the 'Seſſions of the Poets.'

Suckling next was call'd, but did not appear,
But ſtraight one whiſper'd Apollo i' th' ear,
That of all men living he car'd not for't,
He loved not the muſes ſo well as his ſport,
And prized black eyes, or a lucky hit
At bowls, above all the trophies of wit.
But Apollo was angry, and publicly ſaid,
'Twere fit that a fire were ſet upon 's head.

Such are the materials, ſcanty enough, which compoſe the biography of ſir John Suckling. It remains that we take notice now of his writings, and firſt of his dramas; theſe are five in number; namely:

1. The Diſcontented Colonel, not printed.

2. Aglaura, a tragi-comedy, firſt acted at the private theatre at Blackfriars, and very popular in Langbaine's time. The author has ſo contrived this play, by means of an alteration in the laſt act, that it may be either as a tragi-comedy, or a perfect tragedy. The ſcene lies in Perſia. It was entered by Thomas Walkeley, April 18, 1638, in the books of the Stationer's company.

3. The Goblins, alſo a tragi-comedy, acted at Blackfriars. The ſcene of this play lies in Francelia, and the author, in the execution of his deſign, has pretty cloſely followed the footſteps of Shakſpeare, of whom he was a profeſſed admirer, his Reginella, being an open imitation of Miranda, in the Tempeſt, and his Goblins, though counterfeits, being only thieves in diſguiſe, yet ſeem to be copied from Ariel, in the ſame play.

4. The Sad One, unfiniſhed, and conſequently never acted. In ſhort, it is rather a ſketch or ſkeleton of a play, than an entire piece; for though it conſiſts of five acts, and ſeems to have ſomewhat of a cataſtrophe, yet none of thoſe acts are of more than half the uſual length; nor is the ſubject of any one ſcene ſo much extended on, as it is apparent it was the author's intention to have done. The ſcene lies in Sicily.

5. Brenovalt, a tragedy, is an alteration of the firſt mentioned, The Diſcontented Colonel, and is printed in his works, and was acted at Blackfriars.

His works conſiſt, beſides, of Miſcellaneous Poems of various merit. There is certainly ſprightlineſs in them, and occaſional flaſhes of genius. But they have the faults of the times, and ſometimes are blameable on the ſcore of delicacy. His ballad on a wedding, and his 'Seſſion of the Poets,' are oftener remembered than any of his works. The ballad was occaſioned by the marriage of Roger Boyle, the firſt earl of Orrery, with lady Margaret Howard, daughter of the earl of Suffolk. There was a great intimacy between ſir John and the earl of Orrery, then lord Broghill. In his 'Seſſion of the Poets,' he has given us ſome traits of the characters of his poetical brethren. One, we think, of the beſt of his poems, entitled 'Detraction execrated,' is pointed out by Mr. Nichols, who has inſerted it in his excellent collection of Select Poems, vol. 1, with a notice of his life, to which we are indebted for ſome of the above particulars.

Sir John Suckling's proſe works conſiſt of letters, all of which are airy and ſprightly, but of little importance, if we except the one already mentioned to Mr. Jermyn, which evinces a knowledge of public affairs, then awfully critical, and a judgment far beyond his years. We have alſo a letter addreſſed to the earl of Dorſet, entitled 'An Account of Religion by Reaſon.' The purport is to indicate Chriſtianity on rational principles, and is written with great ability. We ſhould not do juſtice to our readers, nor to the object of this brief memoir, if we withheld the following extract from a work which, from its ſituation, may not probably often fall into the hands it was intended for.

'It would not be amiſs,' ſays our author, 'to take a ſurvey of the world from its cradle; and with Varro, divide it into three ages: the Unknown, the Fabulous, and the Hiſtorical.

'The firſt was a black night, and diſcovered nothing; the ſecond was a weak and glimmering light, repreſenting things imperfectly and more falſely; the laſt, more clear, left handſome monuments to poſterity. The Unknown, I place in the age before the flood, for that deluge ſwept away all things as well as men, and left not ſo much as footſteps to trace them by. The Fabulous began after the flood; in this time godheads were cheap, and men not knowing where to chooſe better, made deities one of another. Where this ended, the Hiſtorical took beginning; for men began to engrave in pillars, and to commit to letters, as it were by joint conſent; for the three great epochs, or terms of accompt, were all eſtabliſhed within the ſpace of thirty years: the Grecians reckoning from their Olympiads; the Romans from the building of their city; and the Babylonians from their king Salmanaſſer. To bring into the ſcale with the Chriſtian religion any thing out of the firſt age, we cannot, becauſe we know nothing of it.

'And the ſecond was ſo fabulous, that thoſe which took it up, afterward ſmiled at it as ridiculous and falſe (which, though, was eaſier for them to do, than to ſhow a true.) In the hiſtorical, it improved, and grew more refined: but here the fathers entered the field, and ſo clearly gained the victory, that I ſhould ſay nothing in it, did I not know it ſtill to be the opinion of good wits, that the particular religion of Chriſtians has added little to the general religion of the world. Let us take it then in its perfecter ſtate, and look upon it as in that age, which was made ſo glorious by the bringing forth of ſo many admirable ſpirits, and this was about the eightieth Olympiad, in the year of the world 3480, for in the ſpace of a hundred years, flouriſhed almoſt all that Greece could boaſt of, Socrates, Plato, Ariſtotle, Architas, Iſocrates, Pythagoras, Epicurus, Heraclitus, Xenophon, Zeno, Anaxagoras, Democritus, Demoſthenes, Pamenides, Xenocratus, Theophraſtus, Empedocles, Timæus, with divers others, orators and poets. Or rather (for they had their religion

one from another, and not much different) let us take a view of it in that century, in which nature (as it were to oppoſe the Grecian inſolence) brought forth that happy birth of Roman wits: Varro, Cicero, Ceſar, Livy, Salluſt, Virgil, Horace, Vitravius, Ovid, Pliny, Cato, Marcus, Brutus, and this was from Quintus Servilius' conſulſhip, to that of Auguſtus, two hundred and ſeventy years after the other. And to ſay the truth, a great part of our religion, either directly or indirectly, hath been profeſſed by heathens: which I conceive not ſo much an exprobration to it, as a confirmation; it being nō derogating from truth, to be warranted by common conſent.

'Firſt then, the creation of the world is delivered almoſt to the ſame in the Phenician ſtories, with that in Moſes; from this the Grecians had their Chaos, and Ovid the beginning of his Metamorphoſis. That all things were made by God, was held by Plato, and others; that darkneſs was before light, by Thales; that the ſtars were made by God, by Aratus; that life was infuſed into things by the breath of God, Virgil; that man was made of duſt, Heſiod and Homer; that the firſt life of man was in ſimplicity and nakedneſs, the Ægyptians taught: and from thence the poets had their Golden Age. That in the firſt times mens lives laſted a thouſand years, Beroſus and others; that ſomething divine was ſeen among men, till that the greatneſs of our ſins gave them cauſe to remove, Catullus; and this he that writes the ſtory of Columbus, reports from the Indians of a great deluge, almoſt all. But in the main, they hold one God, and though multiplicity hath been laid to their charge, yet certainly the clearer ſpirits underſtood theſe petty Gods as things, not as Deities; ſecond cauſes, and ſeveral virtues of the great power; by Neptune, water; Juno, air; by Diſpater, earth; by Vulcan, fire; and ſometimes one god ſignified things, as Jupiter, the whole world, the whole heaven; and ſometimes many gods, one thing, as Ceres, Juno Magna, the earth. They concluded thoſe to be vices which we do; nor was there much difference in their virtues: only Chriſtians have made ready belief the higheſt, which they would hardly allow to be any. They held rewards for the good, and puniſhments for the ill; they had their Elyſium, and their hell; and that they thought the pains eternal there, is evident, in that they believed from thence was no return. They proportioned ſufferings hereafter, to offences here; as in Tantalus, Siſyphus, and others, among which, that of conſcience (the worm that never dies) was one, as in the vulture's gnawing of Prometheus' heart, and Virgil's ugliеſt furies thundering in Pirithous' ears, was not obſcurely ſhown; and yet nearer us, they held the number of the elect to be but ſmall, and that there ſhould be a laſt day in which the world ſhould periſh by fire. Laſtly, they had their prieſts, temples, altars.

'We have ſeen now the parallel; let us enquire whether thoſe things they ſeem to have in common with us, we have not in a more excellent manner, and whether the reſt in which we differ from all the world, we take not up with reaſon. To begin then with their Jupiter (for all before were but little ſtealths from Moſes' works) how much more like a Deity, are the actions our ſtories declare our God to have done, than what the Ethnick authors deliver of theirs? How excellent and elevated are our deſcriptions of him? Theirs looking as if they knew that power only by their fears, as their ſtatues erected to him declare: for when he was *Capitolinus*, he appeared with thunder; when *Latiaris*, beſmeared with blood; when *Feretrius*, yet more terrible. We may gueſs what their conceptions were, by the worſhip they gave him: how full of cruelty were their ſacrifices? It being received almoſt through the whole world, that gods

were pleaſed with the blood of men: and this cuſtom neither the Grecian wiſdom, nor Roman civility aboliſhed, as appears by ſacrifices to Bacchus.

'Then the ceremonies of Liber Pater, and Ceres, how obſcene? and thoſe days which were ſet apart for the honour of the gods, celebrated with ſuch ſhows as Cato himſelf was aſhamed to be preſent at. On the contrary, our ſervices are ſuch, as not only Cato, but God himſelf may be there: we worſhip him that is the pureſt ſpirit, in purity of ſpirit; and did we not believe what the Scriptures deliver from himſelf, yet would our reaſon perſuade us that ſuch an eſſence could not be pleaſed with the blood of beaſts, or delighted with the ſteam of fat: and in this particular Chriſtians have gone beyond all others, except the Mahometans; beſide whom there has been no nation that had not ſacrifice, and was not guilty of this pious cruelty.

'That we have the ſame virtues with them is very true; but who can deny that thoſe virtues have received additions from Chriſtianity, conducing to mens better living together? Revenge of injuries, Moſes both took himſelf, and allowed by the law to others: Cicero and Ariſtotle placed it in virtue's quarter: we extol patient bearing of injuries; and what quiet the one, what trouble the other would give the world, let the indifferent judge. Their juſtice only took care that men ſhould not do wrong; ours that they ſhould not think it, the very coveting ſeverely forbidden; and this holds too in chaſtity, deſire of a woman unlawfully being as much a breach of the commandment, as their enjoying, which ſhowed not only the Chriſtians care, but wiſdom to prevent ill, who provided to deſtroy it where it was weakeſt, in the cradle, and declared, that he was no leſs than a God, who gave them thoſe laws; for had he been but man, he never would have provided or taken care for what he could not look into, the hearts of men, and what he could not puniſh, their thoughts.'

From this ſpecimen, a judgment may be formed of the whole of this letter, which ſhows abilities undoubtedly capable of higher efforts, had our author lived.—Various editions have been printed of his works in one volume; the beſt by Tonſon in 1719.

ON MISANTHROPY.

THE human capacity is limited, very diſtant from all extremes; we find nothing in men, which doth not ſome way or other partake of this finite nature; their powers of invention and action are circumſcribed; ſuch of neceſſity muſt be their knowledge and arts, their moral defects and excellencies. Their offices are mixed and partial, as flowing neither wholly from the beſt nor the worſt of principles, their ſcience is probability and conjecture: they have hardly any ſyſtem of abſolute truth, in which every link of the great chain is clearly and indubitably connected; otherwiſe it would be aſſented to by all. On the contrary, they have few errors of pure undiſguiſed falſehood; for then who would continue to maintain them? I hear of many who excel and go before others in virtue and real worth; but ſtill their excellence is human. The inſtances are not fewer of depravity and wickedneſs, yet in every one of them, it is the depravity of men, and therefore partial. How vaſt the diſtance between the extreme of goodneſs and wickedneſs! How many points in this line may we ſuppoſe to mark the differences of human characters! How many again on either ſide, to which they never have reached, nor ever will, perhaps, as long as the world laſts! If there are any ſuperior beings, who ſet themſelves to be ſpectators of conduct, I am perſuaded that they view us neither with contempt nor admiration.

The character of the far greater

part of mankind conſiſts in a mediocrity, ſomewhat inclined on this ſide and the other, toward vice, or virtue. Such as exceed theſe bounds, though never ſo little, immediately become a gazing ſtock to the reſt; a proof that they are uncommon, and not of every growth. And what ſhall we ſay of thoſe enterprizing ſouls, who, like blazing ſtars, appear two or three in an age, miracles of excellence or deformity! We muſt not form a judgment of millions from a few eccentric natures. Neither the genius nor inclination of the multitude carry them to enterprizes; they keep along the ſober tranquil path of life, or follow the lead of others, without any providence and foreſight of their own. For theſe reaſons I ſometimes think, that hiſtory may be inſtrumental in giving us falſe and little reaſonable notions of mankind in general. We have there drawn together, in one view, the moſt ſtriking ſcenes which have been exhibited on the theatre of the world; we ſee no common actors, but princes and heroes, generals and ſtateſmen, all whoſe ſtation and qualities have rendered them remarkable. In an army the vaſt body depends upon a ſingle chief, their marches, their advances and retreats, all their motions are referred to the will of one man, who frequently hath it in his power to diſgrace the whole party, or crown them with immortal honour by his council and dexterity: but muſt we applaud or condemn twenty thouſand for the conduct of a ſingle perſon? Thus it hath been in the great world, and in the management of thoſe affairs, which writers have thought worthy of being tranſmitted to poſterity.

The ambition of princes, the gain and loſs of battles, the revolutions of ſtates, are the ſubjects of hiſtory; and all thoſe grand events, in which hardly one out of a hundred thouſand has had any more ſhare than that of a ſpectator, or a mere machine. How cold and languid are thoſe periods, which have been ſignalized by no calamity, in which the affairs of men have flowed on through a ſmooth and peaceful channel, ruffled by no civil diſcord or foreign invaſion. We hear little of the common courſe of things, any more than of the common run of characters; every thing is related for ſurpriſe and admiration; they paſs over the ſtill ordinary ſcenes of life without notice, and haſten to enlarge upon monſters and prodigies. Wars, tumults, and conſpiracies, are the harveſt of an hiſtorian; here it is that he ſummons all the efforts of genius to dive into the ſouls of men, to comprehend the intrigues and miſeries of a faction, and enter into the characters of the different leaders. And it is no new thing to have thoſe exaggerated with all the arts of declamation, and accommodated rather to the paſſions of the writer, than to the nature of things and hiſtorical truth. A freſh ſource of error and confuſion! We may be certain, that the painter has not done juſtice to his originals, who copies every portrait from a Venus or a Meduſa. I want a deſcription of human beings, ſomewhat that is not ſuperlatively good or bad, and in which I may trace the well known features. I never wonder to find men weak, inconſtant, riſing above themſelves in ſpeculation, falling beneath in practice, acting their parts unequally, different from each other, and from themſelves. This is nature; thus it hath been, and thus it will be, in every buſineſs where human creatures are the agents and contrivers; it is the perfect hero, the faultleſs ſaint, the unchecked villain, which raiſes my ſurpriſe, and creates a ſuſpicion of the fairneſs or capacity of my informer.

We ſee the reaſon why hiſtory, though it has its ſingular uſes, yet being an aſſemblage of whatever is grand and extraordinary in the world, muſt on that very account not a little miſlead our judgments, if we propoſe to take theſe ſhining parcels for a pattern of the whole ſyſtem. Human life is neither a tragedy nor a comedy,

though intermixed with a good deal of both: it is ſomething ſoberly ſerious, if I may be indulged the expreſſion, and for the moſt part of an equal tenour; in which it is no wonder that we meet with ſeveral exceptions, and ſcenes more highly finiſhed, which have been ſelected from the general heap, more upon account of their rarity, than for the reſemblance which they bear to the reſt of the drama. Murder, rapine, ſacrilege, whatever is greatly good or greatly wicked, as large as the whole amount of them would appear when laid together in a ſingle narration, ſo as almoſt to perſuade one, that nothing elſe had been performed upon the ſtage of the univerſe; yet theſe bear no proportion to the common events of life, ſuch as happen every day throughout the world, and which are hurried down the ſtream of time, without a ſingle annaliſt to reſcue them from oblivion. And how can it be otherwiſe? Our community is not made up of robbers and patriots; the greater part are middle characters, approaching toward neither extreme: and there are many who can hardly be ranked under any expreſs denomination, and whom we neither know well how to condemn or approve.

There is little occaſion to caution men againſt entertaining too favourable an opinion of their ſpecies; the error lies on the other hand: and there is more danger, that the corrupt principles of a few individuals ſhould be imputed to all for condemnation, than that the good conduct of many others ſhould avail to the acquittal and juſtification of the reſt. Diſorder and wickedneſs paſs for epidemic, while ſoundneſs of body or mind, are conſidered only as excepted caſes: we are much of the ſame temper in the cenſures which are paſſed upon particular perſons: one falſe ſtep deſtroys a reputation, which a hundred good actions will hardly retrieve: is it a love of defamation which turns our thoughts into the leſs favourable channel? Or is it ſelf defence only, which engages us for our own ſecurity, to indulge a ſuſpicion of what we fear ſhould prove true? Is it the pride of virtue, and the conſciouſneſs of ſuperior integrity, which leads us to magnify the failings of men, and be more ſevere upon crimes, from which we know ourſelves to be free? Or is it a ſenſe of their own baſeneſs and diſhoneſty, which puts men upon aſſigning the ſame depravity to others, and meaſuring their neighbours motives by their own corrupted ſtandard? for each of theſe no doubt have had their ſhare in helping forward the general calumny.

But of all the writers, who have treated upon human nature, I have the leaſt patience with thoſe who traduced mankind in their cloſets, and draw out fine-ſpun ſyſtems of human actions, reſolving them all into one ſource: and *that* the leaſt favourable to us as ſocial natures, and the joint members of a grand community. Nothing can be more wild of itſelf, than to think of reducing to any ſingle principle the actions of beings, who are compounded of ſo many. The ſaying of the ancient prince is celebrated: 'I find alas!' he cries, 'that I have two ſouls, one of which draws me to vice, and the other to virtue.' And who has not found the ſame? For if we approve this language, every man hath, I do not ſay two, but as many ſouls as he has different paſſions and affections, each of which preſiding in its turn, may denominate him a different being. Hence it ariſes, that we have no perfection in characters; hence it is, that there is no one ſo good whom we can pronounce abſolutely free from blemiſhes, nor any one ſo bad in whom there is nothing that we can approve. Selfiſhneſs may be one great characteriſtic of the ſpecies, but it can never be the only one. There is a great deal more of natural juſtice, and even philanthropy, than we readily imagine, that is neceſſary to the very name and appearance of ſociety, which is out of our ſight, and is, as I may ſay, buried in the

foundation, which, if it was once taken away, all the ſuperſtructure of laws and government would of itſelf fall to the ground; for theſe do not conſtitute the union of men, but only help to bind and preſerve it: government is not the miſtreſs, but the handmaid, the nurſe, and not the mother of ſociety. It was this ſentiment of friendſhip and common ſympathy, which prevented men from retiring into dens and caves, and firſt inſtituted the commerce of life. And we might in vain expect to ſee rational beings united together by law and compact, if they had no more affection for each other than bears and tygers.

It is uſual to declaim upon the quarrels and tumults, which have riſen in the world, and to cenſure men for their proneneſs to diſcord and contention: let this, likewiſe, be their praiſe, that in the mid of ſuch jarring intereſts and paſſions they continue to agree ſo well. We think with deteſtation of the evils and tragedies, which their headſtrong paſſions have occaſioned; it may be uſeful alſo to reflect upon the miſchief which they have not done. If this is no praiſe of their virtue, it ſhows, at leaſt, an imperfection in vice, and proves, that they are not complete maſters of the art, but only rude practitioners and apprentices. Had we been intirely diveſted of ſocial feelings, what could we have looked for but cities univerſally deſerted, and not the frequent breach of laws by this man, or that, but the very being and name of them every where extinguiſhed? And whence is it, that the moſt abandoned villains deſire a ſociety in wickedneſs, among whom that faith and friendſhip is held ſacred, which they ſeem to have renounced with the reſt of mankind? But that thoſe perſons, who do all in their power to weaken and diſſolve this neceſſary union, and prevent there being any ſociety and commerce of good offices, yet never loſe their ſocial natures, and ſtill judge, that no ſtate can be tolerably happy without ſome companions of their own fortune, ſome partners to alleviate their griefs, and their pleaſures and ſucceſſes.

The nature and conduct of men do not permit us to think the beſt of them, but they equally forbid us to think the worſt. As much as ſuperior beings can go beyond them in goodneſs, ſo much may they be exceeded by others in wickedneſs. In our opinions of mankind, it is both ſafe and juſt to follow the middle way; and where there is room for doubting, to incline to the more favourable ſide, and take that part which equity and religion dictate; if it is a piece of juſtice which we owe to individuals, not to think or ſay the worſt we can, but to judge them with all reaſonable allowances, the ſame muſt certainly be due to ſociety, and to human nature in general. It cannot be leſs criminal to blacken and aſperſe a race of beings, than to take away the character of a private perſon. He who hates the name of man, is himſelf the firſt monſter in nature, who quarrels not with a few individua's, but with a whole ſpecies; who cuts himſelf off from the friendſhip and confidence of all, an enemy to good and bad, jealous both of his friends and foes, and a voluntary outcaſt from ſociety.

L.

ACCOUNT OF THE MONSELEMINES.

The Monſelemines are a people, which inhabit that part of Bildulgerid, that borders on the territories of the emperor of Morocco. They are a mixed race, being deſcended from the ancient Arabs and fugitive Moors; and they occupy a ſpace of land, of which the limits are indicated by lofty columns placed at intervals toward the deſart. Their territory extends from about thirty leagues beyond Cape Non, to the diſtance of twenty leagues

from St. Croix or Agader. Though of different qualities, it is, for the moſt part, very fertile, and produces the neceſſaries of life with little cultivation. The plains are watered by an infinite number of ſtreams, and abound with palm date, fig, and almond trees. The gardens produce excellent grapes, which are dried by the Arabs, and converted into brandy by the Jews. Great quantities of oil, wax, and tobacco, appear in the public markets.

More induſtrious and more laborious than their neighbours, the Monſelemine nation cultivates the earth. The chiefs of families chooſe the ground moſt fit for cultivation. Its ſurface is turned ſlightly over with a kind of hoe, and then the ſeed is ſown upon it; the field is ſurrounded with buſhes, to mark the ſpot, and to preſerve it from the cattle of the wandering Arabs. When the crop is ripe, which is generally at the end of Auguſt, three months after the ſowing of the ſeed, it is cut about ſix inches from the ear, and formed into little bundles; during which time every one labours from morning till night. The corn is brought before the tent, thraſhed, winnowed, and placed in the magazines. When the harveſt is over, they ſet fire to the long ſtubble, and abandon the field for two or three years. Their magazines are large holes in the earth, formed like the fruſtrum of a cone, the inſides of which are hardened by burning wood in them, before the half winnowed corn be depoſited. When filled with corn, they are covered with planks placed cloſe to each other; over which a layer of earth is laid level with the ſoil, to prevent it from being diſcovered by enemies. In theſe magazines every one ſhares in proportion to the number of men he employed in the common labour.

The inhabitants of the plains remain by the cultivated fields in ſeed time, and return at the time of harveſt. During the intervals they wander in all directions with their cattle, taking only neceſſaries along with them, and having recourſe to the magazines when they require a ſupply. The more opulent people, and the artizans who are engaged in ſedentary occupations, dwell in towns, which are all ſituate upon the declivity of hills. Their houſes are built of ſtone and earth, according to the Mooriſh conſtruction, low and covered with ſloping terraces; yet they are ſo much injured by the heavy rains, which prevail for three months of the year, as to be rendered uninhabitable in fifteen or twenty years. Thoſe who reſide in towns are generally weavers, ſhoemakers, goldſmiths, potters, &c. and have no cattle; but the more opulent perſons have flocks and herds of cows, horſes, camels, ſheep, goats, beſide poultry, which are kept by their ſlaves at a diſtance from the towns. In the towns they take two meals a day; one at ten o'clock, and the other at the ſetting of the ſun, though the inhabitants of the country only eat in the evening. In the towns they ſleep on mats upon the floors of their apartments, and make uſe of linen; but the inhabitants of the country ſleep upon terraces in the open air. The paſtoral families of the country practiſe hoſpitality like thoſe of the deſert, and make the traveller pay nothing for his entertainment. In the towns, this practice is impoſſible, as the concourſe of ſtrangers, eſpecially on market-days, would ſoon impoveriſh the inhabitants. In this manner hoſpitality is always extinguiſhed among a trading and commercial people. It is only where the ſuperfluity of commodities runs neceſſarily to waſte, that it is ever practiſed in a great extent; but where every commodity can find a market, every kind of property acquires a definite value, and will be preſerved with the ſame care as money.

By M. Saugnier, the government of the Monſelemines, is ſaid to be republican; but he writes inconſiſtently about it. In one place, he ſays that they chooſe their chiefs annually; in

another, that in the time of war they chooſe from the natives or fugitive Moors indiſcriminately, chiefs, whoſe authority laſts no longer than the campaign, during which it is abſolute; and he afterward repreſents their government as a kind of theocracy, during war as well as peace. But we muſt follow him in his detail.

At the end of each campaign, he ſays, the chief gives an account of his actions to the aſſembled aged men, and is rewarded or puniſhed according to his conduct: after which his ſucceſſor is appointed, and he ſerves in the army he commanded as an undiſtinguiſhed individual. The country is populous, and would be ſtill more ſo, were it not for the continual wars, which its inhabitants are obliged to ſupport againſt the emperor of Morocco. The liberty they enjoy imparts energy and courage to their character, and renders their arms invincible to the Moors. They conſider it as the moſt invaluable poſſeſſion, and defend it to the laſt extremity. The nature of the country, ſurrounded on every ſide by ſteep and arid mountains, contributes to fruſtrate the efforts of their enemies. The Monſelemine, richer than the ſubject of Morocco, is always well clothed and armed. He pays no tribute, enjoys the fruit of his labour and commerce, and as no contributions are requiſite for the charges of the ſtate, whatever he acquires is his own. The fugitive Moors are never armed, except when they go to battle; but the natives go continually armed, whether they reſide in the country, reſort to the markets, attend the aſſemblies of the nation, or pay viſits.

As the Monſelemine territory is the retreat of the rich Moors, who wiſh to fly from the tyranny of the emperor of Morocco, they are too well acquainted with the Mooriſh cuſtoms to be ſurpriſed by that prince. No ſooner does a Mooriſh army take the field, than the inhabitants of the country cantons mount their horſes, and occupy the paſſes of the mountains; while the women and ſlaves, eſcorted by a ſufficient number of warriors, retire to the interior parts of the country, or, if they be hard preſſed, to the deſert. Among the paſtoral tribes there are many that addict themſelves intirely to arms, and ſerve as cavalry in the time of war. During peace they eſcort caravans, or exerciſe themſelves in military evolutions, and the management of their horſes. Being almoſt always on horſeback, and wearing no boots, they have a callous lump on that part of the leg that comes in contact with the iron of the ſtirrup. Their horſes, which they break-in in an admirable manner, are the beſt in the world; as they are treated with great care by their maſters, they know them, and are obedient to their voice, and will admit no ſtranger to mount them.

The Monſelemines derive their origin and name from Monſeilama, a contemporary of Mahomet; and, in their love of liberty, as well as in many of their cuſtoms, reſemble the Arabs of remoter times. They reſpect the prophet like other Mahometans; but neither believe that he was infallible, nor that his deſcendants are all inſpired by God, nor that their will ſhould be a law, nor that ſuch faith is neceſſary in order to be a good Mahometan. Their prieſts are reſpected, and in old age generally become the civil judges of the nation; but the influence of the high prieſt is almoſt deſpotic. Though he has no troops, he may command the nation; and war and peace depend upon his will. Though he has no property, every thing is at his diſpoſal: he requires nothing from any one, and yet all are inclined to give. He adminiſters juſtice according to the opinion of his counſel, without pretending to be inſpired by the prophet.

On Friday, the Monſelemines aſſemble in their moſques to pray: this is likewiſe the day of their principal market, when their merchandiſe is expoſed to ſale in the public ſquares,

where the old men judge without appeal, when diſputes ariſe. Different from their neighbours of Morocco and Sahara, the Monſelemines never attempt to make proſelytes. Their Chriſtian ſlaves are treated with humanity; but they owe this to the avarice of their maſters. Theſe deteſt Chriſtians, but they love money, and are afraid leſt ſickneſs or death ſhould deprive them of the ſlave, or of the advantage of his labour. Among the inhabitants of the deſart, a Chriſtian, that adopts the religion of Mahomet, is admitted as a citizen and member of the family, and is preſented with cattle to form an eſtabliſhment. The Monſelemines pay more attention to the value of their property than the ſituation of the infidel. A Chriſtian who enters a moſque at Morocco, is put to death, or forced to aſſume the turban. The Monſelemines would turn him civilly out, and content themſelves with impoſing the higheſt poſſible fine. Among the Moors, a Chriſtian diſcovered in an intrigue with a woman of that nation ſuffers death, or ſubmits to converſion; but the Monſelemines prefer money to religion. From them the Chriſtian has nothing to fear; the woman alone is puniſhed, being put into a ſack, and thrown into the ſea. If a Chriſtian ſlave among the neighbouring nations, defends himſelf againſt his maſter, he is puniſhed with death; but money ſaves him among the Monſelemines; he would at moſt receive a ſlight correction.

The Jews are allowed the free exerciſe of their religion among the Monſelemines, but are treated with the ſame indignity as among other Mahometan tribes. A Jew is not permitted to carry arms; and if he ſhould make uſe of them againſt an Arab, he would be puniſhed with death, and probably involve his family in his fate. The Jews inhabit the towns only, where they follow trade and various arts, but are not allowed to cultivate the earth.

Polygamy is permitted, as in other Mahometan countries; but the ſituation of the women is more reſpectable, and they are not ſo much ſecluded as among the Moors. They mingle more in ſociety, walk at large, and, viſit their friends; neither are their apartments ſo inviolable. Among the Monſelemines, that degrading picture of humanity is never ſeen which ſometimes occurs in Morocco, a woman drawing the plough with an aſs, a mule, or ſome other beaſt of burden. More happy than the women of the Sahara, and treated with greater attention by their huſbands, they are more humane in their diſpoſitions. Like other Arab women, they ſtain the edges of their eye-lids black with *henna*, and paint their faces red and yellow. Their children are brought up with great care, and are not obliged to exhibit proofs of their courage before they can be conſidered as men, as is the cuſtom in the deſart. Avarice is the principal defect in the character of the Monſelemines. They hoard their money with the utmoſt care, bury it in the earth, and in many caſes die without diſcovering their ſecret even to their children. Miſers, ſays M. Saugnier, ſhould go to that country, where they would learn means of economy; which would ſhow them, that, in compariſon with the Monſelemines, they are themſelves perfect prodigals.

The medicinal applications of the Monſelemines, which differ not from thoſe of the Mongearts, and other inhabitants of the deſert, are extremely ſimple, but appear ſufficiently complex from the mummery of the prieſts, who are the depoſitaries of their medical ſcience. Fleſh wounds are cauteriſed with a hot iron, and then covered with herbs dipped in turtles oil and tar. In headachs, a compreſs is applied with ſuch violence that the blood ſtarts from the forehead. In internal diſeaſes, the general remedies are regimen, reſt, and a few maxims of the Koran myſteriouſly applied to the affected parts.

MATRIMONIAL CONSIDERATIONS.

To the Editor of the Univerſal Magazine.

Sir,

As I underſtand that one of the firſt Objects of Conſideration with the Imperial Parliament, *will be the preſent State of Matrimonial Infidelity, and the Means to remedy the ſame; in Conſequence of the Intimation of a noble Lord, I have ſent you two Letters on the Subject, which ſeem not undeſerving the Attention of your Readers, both from the good Temper and the good Senſe with which they plead in Favour of Marriage. Every Contribution of this Kind will, it is hoped, at this Time have its Value, and if the firſt Parliament of the three* United *Kingdoms ſhall have the Effect to produce domeſtic* Unions *of a better Kind than we generally hear, I truſt their Meeting will be regarded as a moſt important Era in the Hiſtory of the Country.—The firſt of theſe Letters I have Reaſon to think was written by an eminent Divine, lately deceaſed.—Of the Author of the ſecond, I am not ſo well informed, nor is it of Conſequence to know.*

LETTER I.

To ———

Sir,

I AM a married man, and I do not bluſh to own myſelf pleaſed with thoſe ties, which nature ordained for the benefit of the human race, and which ſociety thought fit to encourage for its ſupport. As ſoon as I was poſſeſſed of a moderate fortune, I thought it ungenerous not to divide it with a worthy female, in whoſe company I might enjoy all the genuine endearments of friendſhip and love, and I have not yet had reaſon to repent forming this reſolution. My circumſtances are much increaſed, my temper is more ſociable and gentle, and my happineſs is enlarged by the acceſſion of many exquiſite ſenſations of fondneſs and pity, which I never knew before. In ſhort, ſince I have wore this chain, I cannot help looking upon myſelf as a greater benefactor to my country, a more uſeful member of the community, and a more reſpectable being in the ſyſtem of nature. However, I have the misfortune to ſtand ſingular among my acquaintance, who treat me as one who ought to have come into the world half a dozen centuries ago; my ſentiments are ridiculed as unworthy a man of taſte, and all the ſtale witticiſms of abandoned rakes are repeated, to render the moſt honourable inſtitution heaven has formed, contemptible.

I eſteem and admire thoſe who contribute cheerfully of their ſubſtance to the cultivation of ſcience, the encouragement of commerce, and the improvement of manufactures. It is impoſſible to ſee without pleaſure, the nobility adding to the honours of their birth, the more glorious diſtinctions of merit, by being patrons of every ſociety and inſtitution, calculated to relieve and humanize their fellow-creatures; to train up the orphan to labour, to ſooth ſickneſs and misfortune, to reſcue innocence from ruin, and bring the proſtitute to penitence: but there is one ſociety ſtill wanting (the patronage of which would reflect honour upon majeſty itſelf) for encouraging the increaſe of what ought to be more regarded than the plenty of proviſions, or the number of ſtatues and pictures, or the quantity of game, or the plantation of oaks; I mean nothing leſs than *men*; a ſet of creatures who are certainly conducive to the welfare of a ſtate, neceſſary both in peace and war, and

as ornamental in all houſes and public places, as any painting whatever.

Now it is evident, that as the nature and conſtitution of this being, or animal, or creature, call him what you pleaſe, are not ſo well underſtood as they ought to be; as he cannot ſtand againſt the fury of the ſeas, nor the inclemency of changing climates, nor the mouths of cannon, nor the poiſon of intemperance, nor the fever of perpetual debauchery; and as theſe are conſtantly conſpiring againſt him, he is now become very ſcarce; and it is to be feared, unleſs the laws of nature be changed, and he ſhould multiply like the polypus, by being cut to pieces, or the preſent faſhionable maxims with reſpect to marriage ſhould alter, or more care be taken about renewing his race, he will ſhortly be extinct. I cannot help wiſhing, therefore, that the legiſlature would ſeriouſly think of this impending evil, and provide ſuch remedies againſt it, as they in their great wiſdom ſhall think proper. Let all who have paid the tribute of a family of children to their country, be exempted from all public offices, as far as is conſiſtent with the execution of the laws. Let married perſons have the preference of thoſe who live in celibacy, in the diſpoſal of all places of profit. Let no perſon in church or ſtate, remain in any poſt under the government of a hundred pounds annual value, above a year unmarried. Let proſtitutes be confined to a certain part of the town, never to be ſeen in a public ſtreet, on the pain of being doomed to work and pray in a Magdalen charity-houſe.

All wiſe ſtates have been particularly attentive to the great object of population, as the beſt treaſure and ſecurity of a kingdom. The Romans rewarded him who had a numerous progeny as a public benefactor; and Cicero particularly recommends to Ceſar after the civil wars, the eſtabliſhment of laws for the repeopling of Italy, as the beſt expedient for reconciling the ſtate to the power he had gained; and he who by his example and influence ſets himſelf to reſtore the honours due to marriage, and to increaſe the number of citizens, is a greater patriot, in my opinion, than he who adds fifty iſlands or provinces to his country, at the expence of thouſands of lives, which ages cannot repair.

Cambyſes one day demanded of his courtiers, what idea they entertained of his character, in compariſon of that of his father Cyrus? They all agreed, that he was greater, becauſe he had extended his hereditary dominions by the acceſſion of Egypt and the ſea. But when Crœſus was aſked, he ſaid he was inferior to his ſire in one reſpect, 'that he had not begotten a ſon equal to himſelf.' This ſpirited reply (as may well be imagined) was more agreeable to the temper of Cambyſes, than the fulſome adulation of all the reſt put together.

There are a variety of cauſes which concur to make men prefer a ſordid or a vicious celibacy, to a virtuous but expenſive family: and there is very little hope of ſeeing different principles take place among the higher part of mankind, till the following cauſes are removed; 'There is no proportion between the fortunes and education of women.—Cuſtom has introduced a manner of living, too extravagant to be ſupplied by the common profits of trade, conſiſtent with a large family.—The ſingle, though ever ſo diſſolute, of either ſex, do not meet with contempt enough among the virtuous, to diſcourage guilty pleaſure.—The opportunities of indulging criminal appetites are too frequent.—There are too many places of entertainment and diverſion.—The aggrandizement of a perſon's family, is the ſole avowed end of marriage. And laſt of all, the moſt diſſolute conduct is not always an objection againſt the addreſſes of rakes, even with the moſt virtuous of the fair ſex.'

The luxury of the preſent age, which is ſo often lamented by divines as the moſt alarming and deſtructive

crime now exiſting, is to be dreaded for nothing more, than the fatal tendency it has to depopulate a country. It ſeems to be accompanied by plenty and a tide of riches, but it is ſucceeded by poverty, imbecility, and ruin. The number of ſervants it requires to ſupport its grandeur: the exceſſive price to which it advances the common neceſſaries of life: the enormous waſte which it makes of thoſe beauties of nature, which were deſigned for the ſuſtenance of thouſands, render it very difficult for the virtuous man among the loweſt rank, to find ſubſiſtence for himſelf and his offſpring; and furniſh the vicious with pretences for not entering into a ſtate, for which he has no inclination.

A hundred pounds a year on both ſides, was thought formerly a ſufficient fund for a couple to embark into the world with, and by a ſyſtem of economy which united elegance and ſimplicity, it was found ſufficient for all the purpoſes of a decent and agreeable life, and the education of a family: but now a *competence* means as much as will enable us to live like people of faſhion; a carriage is one of the *neceſſaries* of life, and a footman is as convenient a piece of furniture as a tea-table.

I ſhould ſcarce be credited, if I ſhould relate the cauſe of ſeparation between —— and ——, when all the town know that they were upon the point of being mutually happy. *He* could not help being charmed with ſo fair a lady: *ſhe* could not refuſe her conſent to ſo gallant and generous a man: he had no more vices than were neceſſary for a fine gentleman, and ſhe no more follies than were barely requiſite for the compoſition of a fine lady; and in ſhort, they had both of them every qualification to render the marriage ſtate happy. But alas! what availed theſe gay proſpects! fate had forbid their bliſs; they were obliged to part; for upon comparing their fortunes together, they had not above forty thouſand pounds between them!

Marriage, founded on a ſimilarity of intereſts and inclinations, and comprehending mutual intereſt, affection, and friendſhip, is ſo neceſſary to the preſervation of the human ſpecies, and their nurture and inſtruction, without which their being would be a misfortune; that it is the moſt natural union which undepraved minds can wiſh for; and it could never ſink into diſeſteem, but from a long ſeries of neglect and bad policy in a ſtate. 'Young women,' ſays Monteſquieu, 'who are conducted by marriage to liberty and pleaſure, who have a mind that dares not ſhrink, a heart which dares not feel, eyes which dare not ſee, ears which dare not hear, who are condemned without intermiſſion to trifles and precepts, have ſufficient inducements to lead them on to marriage.' The guilt of diſgracing this inſtitution, muſt entirely lie upon the men.

I ſhall therefore attempt to explode ſome of the moſt plauſible maxims adopted by the admirers of a ſingle life. The plea of ſuperior liberty is frequently urged, but very unjuſtly; for if it means only a freedom to engage in any purſuits or amuſements that are innocent, it is falſe; as a connexion with a companion of ſenſe and virtue, can never be a hindrance to any genuine pleaſures of life, but rather tends to ſweeten and improve them: if it means a reſtraint upon the gratification of unlawful paſſion, it cannot be denied; but at the ſame time, it muſt be confeſſed, that nothing can be more deſirable than to be in a ſituation, which exempts us from being perpetually ſolicited to indulgencies that carry their own puniſhments along with them. The liberty of acting contrary to the intention of nature, and the order of the world; and the privileges of purchaſing ſickneſs and a ſpeedy old age, may be reſigned without any great misfortune to mankind. But, ſays lord Bacon, vaſt efforts of genius, and great diſcoveries in philoſophy, have only been made by ſingle perſons. To this I can only ſay, that as heaven has been ſo frugal of theſe amazing geniuſes, that not

above one appears in two or three centuries, it is a ſign they are not generally wanted; but if a perſon ſhall produce another epic poem, diſcover the longitude, or find out the perpetual motion, he ſhall enjoy for his reward, the privilege of never being compelled to know the felicity, which ſprings from the interchange of honeſt and affectionate ſentiments with a female friend.

A perſon who is intereſted in the cares and fortune of a companion, muſt neceſſarily be expoſed to more inconveniencies than if he ſtood alone; but a wiſh to be detached from the intereſts of ſociety in this ſtate of mutual dependence is a criminal ſelfiſhneſs; and to expect a ſucceſſion of happineſs, totally uninterrupted by any connexion with the world around us, is the height of abſurdity and imprudence.

But 'a perſon,' it is ſaid, 'who is exempt from the extravagant expences of domeſtic life, has a much better chance of raiſing an immenſe fortune.' This is indiſputably true, and if the acquiſition of wealth is the only laudable purpoſe of a human being, and it is much more deſirable to ſee it amaſſed together in one ſum, than prudently laviſhed away for the benefit of ſociety, this objection muſt be acknowledged to be invincible. Let it be remembered, however, that in that medium where wealth, independent of its utility, is lighter than air; he who declines taking his ſhare in thoſe relations of life, which policy and religion have conſpired to render ſacred, for no other reaſon than to indulge a miſerable appetite for greater abundance than his conveniencies require, or his heart can taſte, is a ſorry being, who has forfeited his title to the pleaſures of that ſociety, in which he is too niggardly to have a part; and thoſe who have no other view in ſhunning the nuptial tie, but to range lawleſs over every bound which decency and modeſty have preſcribed, are to be regarded no better than beaſts of prey, who with inſatiable rage take a pleaſure in deſtroying that fair and timorous part of the creation, which they are bound by all the laws of nature of humanity to protect.

Theſe are only the preliminary obſervations to a ſcheme, which I have long been digeſting, for creating a ſociety, for retrieving the honour of matrimony, encouraging the exiſtence of ſo noble a creature as man, and rewarding thoſe who have the courage to engage under the banner of hymen; a ſcheme which I expect all ranks, ages, and ſexes, will join to encourage; which I flatter myſelf will meet with more countenance than even the arts and manufactures: which I doubt not will receive the favour of thoſe who live by the deſtruction, and thoſe who are ſuſtained by the plunder of their fellow-creatures; which I cannot help thinking muſt be agreeable to the ſovereign who wants ſubjects, the ſtate which requires defence, and the fair who cannot live without admirers: in a word, to all who prefer the human ſpecies to lapdogs and monkeys, and eſteem man as the nobleſt work of God.

LETTER II.

THE married ſtate is, perhaps, of any in human life, the moſt deſerving of conſideration. It is undeniably the deſign of the all-wiſe Creator, that ſuch a union ſhould ſubſiſt between men and women, and that it ſhould tend to the happineſs of both. It may then be naturally aſked, whence the infelicities which we commonly ſee in the married ſtate? How comes it to paſs that the neareſt and deareſt union is productive of ſo much miſery? If I tell the reader that I am a bachelor, he will be ready to call me a ſpeculative projector, without experience; and if I ſhould tell him that I am married, he will ſuppoſe my pen guided by reſentment againſt the woman in whom I find myſelf ſo much deceived. I am reſolved therefore to keep this a profound ſecret. My ſituation in life is too low, to make me acquainted with the domeſtic happineſs or miſery

of the great; I do not pretend to know, how often my lord is reprimanded for his love to the bottle, or his miſtreſs; for his midnight ſcenes of debauchery, or for riſking the ruin of his whole family at the gaming table. Nor can I tell when, or how often, his lordſhip has preſumed to expoſtulate with his lady, on the improprieties and inconveniencies of routs, &c. Thoſe things I leave to others, who are better acquainted with them. I ſhall relate only what I have either myſelf been an eye-witneſs to, or what I was truly informed of. If my judgment had been equal to the opportunities I have enjoyed, I ſhould have been able to ſet this matter in a better light.

Unhappy marriages flow either from the giddineſs of youth, or from the pride and avarice of parents. It is too ſeldom that temper and diſpoſition are regarded by either; young people look for nothing but joy and gladneſs, and uninterrupted pleaſure, in the married ſtate; and when they find their expectations any ways diſappointed, they quickly begin to blame each other for it. How many have I known come together with a vaſt ſtock of love, which, nevertheleſs, has been exhauſted in two or three months! How often have I ſeen the greateſt tenderneſs, ſucceeded by mutual reproaches! I have ſeen many families, where Diſcord ſeemed to have taken up his abode; and others where Peace and Harmony delighted every one who came within the doors. I have ſeen the leaſt trifle raiſe a ſtorm which did not ſubſide in many days; a word without a meaning, a look, has thrown a whole family into ſuch diſorder, that others as well as myſelf have, from a principle of ſhame, withdrawn ourſelves, that we might not be witneſſes to the jarrs of two ſo nearly related. Pride on the one ſide, and obſtinacy on the other, are ſufficient to deſtroy the trueſt harmony on earth. I have known ſome who had the tendereſt regard for each other, yet very unhappy, becauſe they could not underſtand each other; they looked through a falſe medium, which made all their conduct liable to miſconſtruction. Others are unhappy through ſometing of a conſtitutional fickleneis; both are deſirous of pleaſing in all inſtances, and yet in moſt inſtances fail.

Some take pleaſure in croſſing each other; and are never better pleaſed, than when they ſee their words or behaviour give pain to thoſe, whoſe happineſs they ought to promote. When huſband and wife are of this temper, they need but perſiſt in the ſame cauſe, and that which they ſeem to look upon as happineſs, can only be interrupted by death.

That the married ſtate is capable of producing much greater happineſs than it generally does produce, is moſt certain. I would therefore propoſe the following things to the conſideration of all who are intereſted, married or unmarried.—The firſt ſtep toward happineſs in this ſtate, is to ground the union upon real eſteem; an eſteem ſpringing, not ſo much from the agreeableneſs of a form, as from diſpoſition. A few years will take away from the one, but will, with proper care, ripen the other, and bring it nearer to perfection, I would therefore earneſtly deſire all young people before they tie the indiſſoluble knot, to ſtudy one another's tempers more than features. If they do not, the chance is greatly againſt them; it is a thouſand to one but they are diſappointed in their expectations. They ought alſo to beware of raiſing their ideas of conjugal felicity too high, for that is a certain way to be diſappointed. Human nature will not admit of perfect happineſs in any ſituation. M—— and C—— were taken with each other's perſon, and were married; they now ſee their folly in not attending to each others diſpoſitions, and ſincerely lament it: the huſband is as much diſguſted with the mildneſs of the wife, as ſhe is with the ſurlineſs of the huſband. This, and the like, is very often the

caſe, with thoſe who are ſaid to marry for love.

If young people are too much governed in their choice of a partner for life by the eye, we know that parents are generally influenced by worldly conſiderations. I have as great an opinion of parental authority as any man, and far be it from me to leſſen it; but it is notorious that at preſent it is extended beyond the bounds of reaſon, when the chief recommendation of a man or woman, is their wealth. Be the perſon ever ſo plain, the underſtanding ever ſo mean, if there are riches, it is enough in the ſight of the parent. He is for joining acre for acre, manor to manor; for eſtabliſhing a family at the expence of every valuable conſideration in life. The child too often has nothing left but to ſubmit to the command of a father, and though alone concerned in the iſſue, is very ſeldom conſulted about the propriety of the match. Theſe bargains are the ſource of the many elopements, ſeparations and incontinency which are ſo often related in our newſpapers, to the ſhame of the age we live in. Surely we are not at this time of day to learn that happineſs is not a neceſſary attendant on wealth. There is an ancient book held by ſome people in great veneration, which ſays that 'a man's life,' the happineſs of life, 'conſiſteth not in the abundance of the things which he poſſeſſeth.' Experience and obſervation, fully confirm the truth of this ſaying. If parents would but attentively conſider what miſchief may flow from ſacrificing their children to their avarice, they would be more careful in the diſpoſal of them, and conſult their inclinations a little more than at preſent they do. The happineſs of the married ſtate conſiſts in the union of two perſons whoſe ſouls ſeem in uniſon to each other, whoſe tempers are nearly alike, and whoſe diſpoſitions are naturally benevolent. Hence then it follows, that happineſs depends, not ſo much upon circumſtances as upon diſpoſition! If a parent love his child, he ought principally to regard his eaſe and comfort in life, eſpecially in an affair ſo momentous as marriage: children muſt abide by the conſequences, and therefore in reaſon ought to have not only a negative, but a poſitive voice, in ſome ſenſe at leaſt, when they are about to enter into that ſtate which can be altered by death alone. Theſe and the like conſiderations ought not to be overlooked, eſpecially at preſent, when there appears a neceſſity for the interference of the legiſlature.

But until we ſee matrimony a little more encouraged every way than it is, we ſhall, I am afraid, labour under thoſe inconveniencies, nor can we hope for their removal, till a ſimilarity of temper and mutual inclinations are more conſulted. While the preſent method is in vogue, of diſpoſing of children to the higheſt bidder, no wonder that both ſexes ſhould be afraid of entering into wedlock: for they muſt be ſenſible, that the moſt that can be expected from modern marriages, by way of bargain and ſale, is ſomething like happineſs, that is, outward affected complaiſance and politeneſs: but where is love, that tender union of ſouls, without which there can be no real, no laſting felicity? It is but a few years ſince a young lady, by the ſtrict command of her father, was married to a gentleman at leaſt twice, if not three times her age, whoſe ſon at the very time made his addreſſes to her. Could any thing be more unnatural, or more likely to lead her from the paths of virtue, to ſacrifice her honour out of mere averſion to the man who had forced her hand? But the father loved money above all things. Though he had an eſtate very large, he yet was as covetous as if he had been on the borders of want. This is a matter of fact, and well known to hundreds. I cannot find a name vile enough for ſuch a parent. As to myſelf, I have no particular reaſon to reſent the avarice of fathers and mothers, but I know many who have, whoſe happi-

neſs in this life has been deſtroyed by it. I might have produced more inſtances of the ſame kind with the above; but, it may be ſufficient to adviſe all parents, if they love their offspring, to conſult their wealth and grandeur leſs, and their happineſs more, in their diſpoſal of them for life.

ON THE LADIES' DRESS.

To the Editor of the Univerſal Magazine.

SIR,

THE ready attention you have paid to my two former communications on this ſubject, induces me to offer more remarks, from the ſame quarter, in vindication or apology for our modern *belles*.

The preſent luxury of dreſs affords a conſtant opportunity of endeavouring to perſuade us, that our own times ſurpaſſes all the world. But this is not mere declamation; for if we look back even to the very remote periods of antiquity, we ſhall find that the ſame thing was then the ſubject of declamation as well as at preſent. The third chapter of Iſaiah, preſents us with an account of the finery of the daughters of Babylon, which no modern extravagance has hitherto equalled. Homer dreſſes ſeveral of his heroes and heroines, with a magnificence to which we are ſtrangers; and Cleopatra exhibited an extravagance in her dreſs and entertainments, which in our times would beggar the moſt wealthy potentate on the globe. Even in the days of Moſes, they were acquainted with the art of poliſhing precious ſtones; and not only knew how to ſet, but what appears more extraordinary, were alſo acquainted with the mode of engraving them. The ephod of Aaron was adorned with two onyxes ſet in gold, on each of which the names of ſix of the tribes of Iſrael were engraved. The breaſt-plate of judgment, ſhone with twelve precious ſtones of different colours, upon every one of which was the name of one of the twelve tribes. We might eaſily multiply inſtances to ſhow the ſplendour and magnificence of the ancients; but thoſe already given are ſufficient to teach us how little reaſon there is for declaimers to vilify the preſent times, nor have they more reaſon to exclaim againſt this country; whoever has ſeen the ſplendour and magnificence of the eaſt, muſt laugh at every ſatire on that of Europe.

Notwithſtanding all the precious ſtones made uſe of by the ancients, it is probable, that they were unacquainted with the diamond, which modern refinement has ſtamped with ſuch an immenſe value; ſome have imagined, that Homer and Heſiod have mentioned this ſtone by the name of Adamas and Adamantinos; but it has been more judiciouſly ſuppoſed, that theſe Greek terms have not the leaſt relation to it; and Pliny, who has taken much pains to inveſtigate the diſcovery of precious ſtones, can find no mention of this till a period near the beginning of the Chriſtian era. But long after the diſcovery of diamonds, they did not, for want of being properly poliſhed, diſplay half the luſtre they do at preſent; the art of giving them this luſtre by poliſhing them with their own duſt, is but a late invention, and aſcribed to Lewis de Berquen, a native of Bruges, who lived only about three hundred years ago.

Individuals of the human ſpecies, like thoſe of all others, grow old and ſuffer by decay; but the ſpecies itſelf, always the ſame, is conſtantly diſtinguiſhed by the ſame propenſities, and actuated by the paſſions; it treads in the ſame path that it did five thouſand years ago: dignity and power were then, as well as now, in many places conferred by opulence, and diſtinguiſhed by ornament and dreſs: and beauty was fond of adding to nature all the decorations and embelliſhments of art. This would appear evi-

dent were we to go through the hiſtory of ancient nations, but we ſhall probably find more amuſement in approaching ſomewhat nearer our own times, and our own nation, or its immediate neighbour.

One curious revolution in dreſs took place, in the laſt century, under the protectorſhip of Oliver Cromwell. Almoſt every religion that had been promulgated, previous to that of Chriſtianity, had interwoven, in its very eſſence, a number of ceremonies, where grandeur and magnificence were oſtentatiouſly diſplayed. Theſe religions, therefore, inſtead of diſcouraging, rather encouraged ornament and finery. But the author of the Chriſtian ſyſtem, having taught, by his example, as well as his doctrine, the utmoſt plainneſs and ſimplicity, it, in time, became faſhionable for ſuch of the members of that ſyſtem, as had more zeal than underſtanding, to exclaim, in the bittereſt terms, againſt every ſpecies of dreſs that had any other object in view than to cover ſhame, and defend from the cold. This rage of turning all things into the moſt primitive ſimplicity, ſeemed riſing to the zenith of its glory, about the time that the protector began to make ſome figure in England. During his adminiſtration, it openly triumphed over ſenſe, reaſon, and even decency. Women were then in ſo much diſgrace, that they were denied all kinds of ornament; and even the beauties beſtowed by nature, were conſidered as criminal diſadvantages to the fair poſſeſſors, and ſufficient motives to induce every Chriſtian to ſhun their company; becauſe it was impoſſible to be in it without ſinning.

But as the human paſſions, like ſprings, fly the more violently in the oppoſite direction, the more forcibly they have been bent, the Reſtoration was no ſooner brought about, than all this public enthuſiaſm vaniſhed, and elegance of dreſs and levity of manners ſoon became more the faſhion than ſlovenlineſs and puritaniſm had been before. Pleaſure became the univerſal object, and the pleaſure of love took the lead of all others; but beauty unconnected with virtue was the object of this love; it was therefore void of honour or morality, in conſequence of which, female virtue, robbed of its reward, became leſs inflexible, and a total degeneracy of manners enſued.

In every country where dreſs is under the direction of taſte and judgment, it is ſo contrived as neither altogether to conceal, nor altogether to diſcover, the beauties of the female form. This general rule, however, has not been without exceptions; in every country enthuſiaſtic prieſts, antiquated prudes, and women outrageouſly virtuous, have muffled themſelves like Egyptian mummies, and exclaimed in the bitterneſs of their hearts againſt the nakedneſs of the reſt of the world; while on the other hand, women of leſs rigid principles, and thoſe abandoned to proſtitution, throwing aſide all decency, ſeemed to wiſh that the whole female toilet e were reduced to the original fig-leaf: ſome nations, too, are leſs delicate in this reſpect than others; the Italians and French have ever been remarkably ſo, while the Spaniſh have fallen into the oppoſite extreme. At Venice, the ladies in the beginning of the laſt century dreſſed in ſuch light. thin ſtuffs, that not only the ſhape of the body, but even the colour of the ſkin, might eaſily be ſeen through them. The late approaches, therefore, to this dreſs, are not *new*. The French ladies are in the ſame predicament, only that, more light and fantaſtic, they have flown with greater rapidity from one faſhion to another. In the fourteenth century, they appeared half naked at public aſſemblies, and in the public walks dreſſed ſo much like the men, that they could hardly be diſtinguiſhed from them but by the voice and complexion; ſuch have long been the modes of dreſſing in Italy and France, as to endeavour to ſhow every charm which can with any tolerable degree of decency be diſplayed. While in Spain, where the ſpirit of chivalry

is hardly yet extinguiſhed, and where the women conſequently ſtill retain a little of the romantic dignity which was annexed to it, ſo far from ſhowing their nakedneſs, they hardly as yet condeſcended even to ſhow their faces to the other ſex.

Though the French have now, and in their republican ſtate, as well as during the monarchy, taken the lead in all the fantaſtic fripperies of faſhion, it would ſeem that the Italians were formerly not leſs noted for it. Petrarch deſcribing their dreſs in his time, ſays; 'who can behold the ſhoes with pointed toes, ſo long that they will reach to the knee, head-dreſſes with wings to them, the hair put into a tail, the foreheads of the men furrowed with thoſe ivory needles, with which the women faſtened their hair, and their ſtomachs ſqueezed by machines of iron?' The pointed ſhoes and machines of iron were more unnatural, and conſequently more ridiculous, than any fantaſtic faſhion, which has appeared in this fantaſtic age.

As the ornamental part of dreſs is evidently meant to heighten the beauties of nature, nothing can be more evident than that it ſhould always coincide with her deſigns, wherever ſhe is not defective or luxuriant. Such we preſume are the ideas of the true taſte, but ſuch, however, have not always been thoſe adopted by the leaders of faſhions. Toward the beginning of the preſent century, it ſeems to have been the prevailing opinion, that nature had made the female waiſt greatly too large; to remedy which, the ſtiffeſt ſtays were laced on in the tighteſt manner, leſt the young ladies ſhould become clumſy, or grow crooked. Toward the middle of the century, it began to be diſcovered, that beſide the uneaſineſs of ſuch a ſituation, it frequently produced the very effects it was intended to prevent; phyſicians and philoſophers now declaimed againſt ſtays, and they were by many laid aſide with ſuch abhorrence that the faſhion took quite a different turn; we diſcovered that our mothers had been all in the wrong, and that nature had not made the female waiſt nearly ſo large as it ought to have been, but the ladies ſupplied this defect ſo well with clothes, that about forty years ago, every woman, young and old, had the appearance of being big with child. In the courſe of a few years, however, ſmall waiſts were again introduced, and it being ſtill a diſputed point what the proper ſize of a waiſt ought to be, our *belles* ſeem of late agreed to compromiſe the matter by having no waiſt at all.

The revolution of the breaſts and ſhoulders have not been leſs conſpicuous than thoſe of the waiſt; about the beginning of the century, it was highly indecent to be naked two inches below the neck; about the middle of it, ſhe was dreſſed in the higheſt taſte, who ſhowed the greater part of her breaſts and ſhoulders; ſome years afterward, every female of condition was muffled up to the chin; of late years that mode was diſcarded, and naked breaſts began again to appear, and ſtill remain ſo, though not to ſo great a degree as three or four years ago. As in all countries, women have been particularly ſolicitous about the ornament and dreſs of their heads, ſo in ours theſe have been an object of ſo much attention, that the materials employed, and the variations produced by them, are beyond our power to deſcribe; we ſhall only, therefore, obſerve in general, that the head-dreſs which immediately preceded the preſent, had a near reſemblance to that which was uſed by the ladies of ancient Rome, and conſiſted of ſo much wool, falſe hair, pomatum, paſte, quills, combs, pins, curls, ribbons, laces, and other materials, that the head of a lady in full dreſs, when ſtanding, was ſomething more than one-third of the length of her whole figure. This has given way by ſlow degrees to the total reduction of the head, and the abſolute diſappearance of all hair, except on the forehead, and that forms part of a wig. It would be endleſs to recount all the

gradations from heads extremely high to extremely low, and from a vaſt quantity and length of hair to none at all.

Upon the whole; whatever we may think of the varieties of female dreſs, and their eccentricities, we ſhall not have much to pride ourſelves upon if we contraſt the varieties of the male dreſs, which has been in all ages fully as much ſubject to the caprice of faſhion. On this ground, on the ground of compariſon, it would by no means be difficult to vindicate our *belles* in their wildeſt revolutions of dreſs, but that is not my preſent purpoſe, although I could not conclude my letter, without hinting at it as a very proper exerciſe for thoſe who are partial to indiſcriminate cenſure of the faireſt part of the creation.

I am, ſir, yours,

PHILOGYNES.

ST. STEPHEN's CHAPEL.

[IN our Magazine for September, page 225, we preſented our readers with a brief hiſtorical ſketch of the celebrated chapel of St. Stephen, at Weſtminſter, tracing it from its firſt foundation till its endowment by king Edward III, whoſe princely liberality rendered it the wonder of the age in which he lived, and whoſe devotion raiſed a ſhrine, at which the philoſophers and antiquarians of the preſent day are proud to pay adoration. From the reign of that monarch, we brought down our hiſtory to the period of Edward VI, when it was appropriated to the meetings of the houſe of commons. We now lay before our readers ſome account of the plan and ornament of the building; the latter of which, in conſequence of the projected alterations in the houſe of commons, have, after a lapſe of ages, been unveiled to the light of day.]

The eaſtern part of St. Stephen's-chapel ſerves for the houſe of commons; and the weſtern is occupied by the lobby, and adjoining rooms and offices. In the latter, there are no traces of any enrichments; but in the former there are the remains of the altar, ſtone ſeats, and other rich works. The elevation of the weſtern front or entrance to the chapel, preſents theſe obſervations. From the ground line in the centre riſe two arches ſupporting the open ſcreen: on the right of the ſcreen is the entrance into the porch adjoining, which is the wall of the court of requeſts. On the left is a ſpace correſponding once, it may be preſumed, with the perfect ſide of the ſcreen, extending to the ſouth wall of the hall. Above the ſcreen, ſome remains of the ancient building is ſtill viſible. On the ſouth front, the centre window is complete; five others are filled up with the brickwork between the windows, that at preſent light the houſe of commons. The buttreſſes are entire, as well as the tracing in the ſpandrels of the arches. On the eaſt-front, from the ground line, were three windows of the chancel. The eaſt window of the chancel is now filled up. The buttreſſes are entire, as well as the octangular towers. On the right is part of an ancient wall, which now belongs to the ſpeaker's houſe. On the eaſt end were three windows from the ground of the chancel; over the groins are part of the remains of the altar, and on each ſide ſtone ſeats, and cluſters of columns, the capitals of which riſe to the preſent ceiling of the houſe of commons. The whole is of the richeſt workmanſhip. On the ſouth-ſide from the ground line in the centre, is a perfect window, painted with the arms of Weſtminſter. On the left of the chancel are cluſters of columns; on the right ſide of the left cluſters is the eaſtern window, and without, is the profile of the buttreſſes. At the eaſt end of the columns is an open part; to the right is the chancel, and the baſes are two feet below the pavement which ſhows there muſt have

been a great aſcent to the chancel. The whole of the undercroſs is perfect, excepting the baſes of the outer columns, and forms a fine ſuperſtructure of gigantic ſupport to the light and delicate parts above. In the inſide you behold the eaſt window, the altar, and the ſtone ſeats, which are broken through. The cluſters of columns, the impoſts of the windows, the arches, their ſpandrels, the entablature, the beautiful proportion of the window, and the enrichments of the whole, crowd on the ſight, and fill the mind with wonder and admiration. At the upper end of the chapel, near the altar, on the ſouth ſide, there are evidently the remains of a black marble monument, but to whoſe memory it was erected we are left to conjecture. Over the monument are three angels, ſtanding upright, with their wings half expanded, and covered with golden eyes, ſuch as are on the peacock's tail. Theſe paintings, which muſt have been done in the reign of Edward III, are, for that period, when the art of painting was in its infancy, wonderfully well executed; the colouring has preſerved a conſiderable portion of its original freſhneſs. The expreſſion and attitude of the angels are ſingularly intereſting. You may ſuppoſe the body of the deceaſed ſtretched before them; the three angels are holding palls or mantles before them, which they are preparing to throw over the body, and at the ſame time the one in the middle ſeems to ſay, 'Behold all that remains on earth of him who was once ſo mighty,' while the countenances of the two others are expreſſive of regret and commiſeration. The ſtretched-out pall in the hands of the central angel is powdered over with the irradiated gold circles, in the middle of which are ſpread eagles, with two heads. This affords room for at leaſt a ſuppoſition whoſe the tomb was: the armorial bearings of Peter of Savoy, uncle to queen Eleanor, the wife of Henry III, who beautified the chapel, conſiſted of an eagle with two heads; but his ſhield diſplayed 'Or, an eagle, with two heads, *ſable*.' Now, as the eyes of the peacock's tail are painted in gold, ſo different from the natural colouring, it is not improbable that, for the ſake of adding elegance to the pall, the painter preferred repreſenting the eagle's head in gold rather than in ſable: it may therefore be the tomb of Peter of Savoy we are deſcribing.

On the left ſide of the altar is a painting of the Adoration of the Shepherds; though the groupe is not diſpoſed in the moſt accurate ſtile of deſign, yet there is ſomething in it that highly intereſts the imagination; the Virgin on one ſide is deſcribed holding the new-born infant, while Joſeph is extending the ſwaddling clothes. The cattle behind are not ill expreſſed; and the devotion of the ſhepherds, with their flocks, is very appropriately delineated; the ſhepherds' boy, blowing the double flutes to his dancing dog, and the fighting rams, ſeem but ill to accord with the ſubject; but as the painter has placed them without the ſtable, perhaps the inconſiſtency may be overlooked. There are ſeveral paintings on the right ſide of the altar; they appear to be figures of different kings and queens, tolerably well drawn and in good proportion, and ſtrongly mark the durability of the colouring of that day. On the north ſide of the chapel there are paintings of men in armour, beneath two of them are the names of Mercure and Euſtace. In ſhort the whole of the architecture and enrichments, colours and gilding, are extremely freſh and well preſerved. It is remarkable, that the colours are decorated with a ſort of *patera*, and ſeveral of the mouldings are filled with ornaments ſo minute, that thoſe of the ſpandrels and ground entablature could hardly have been perceived from the chapel.

The blockings and freeſe of the entablature over the windows of the

chapel contain ſome of them leaves and flowers, others perfect maſks, and others ſhields, with the arms of Edward the Confeſſor—Geneville, Mandeville, and Brewere—the arms of Caſtile and Leon, and ancient France—the arms of the kingdom of the Weſt Saxons—vine leaves and grapes, ſupported by a figure iſſuing out of a cloud—and ſhields with the arms of Strabolgi, earls of Athol, in Scotland, and barons of Chilham, in Kent, together with the ſhields of ſeveral other kings and barons.

Doubtleſs the artiſt was deſirous the whole work ſhould have the ſame attention, and that one uniform blaze of magnificence and ſplendour ſhould ſhine around, making this chapel the *ne plus ultra* of the arts, worthy the ſaint whoſe name it bears, and of its founder Edward III, the great patron of ancient architecture.

MEMORABILIA OF DECEMBER.

Oh Winter! ruler of the inverted year,
Thy ſcatter'd hair with ſleet like aſhes fill'd,
Thy breath congeal'd upon thy lips, thy cheeks
Fring'd with a beard made white with other ſnows
Than thoſe of age; thy forehead wrapt in clouds,
A leafleſs branch thy ſceptre, and thy throne
A ſliding car indebted to no wheels,
But urg'd by ſtorms along its ſlipp'ry way;
I love thee, all unlovely as thou ſeem'ſt,
And dreaded as thou art. COWPER.

IN Romulus' year, December was the tenth month, whence it got the name, from *decem*, 'ten,' for the Romans began their year in March. The month of December was under the protection of Veſta. Romulus aſſigned it thirty days; Numa reduced it to twenty-nine, which Julius Ceſar increaſed to thirty-one. Under the reign of Commodus, this month was called, by way of flattery, *Amazonius*, in honour of a courtezan whom that prince paſſionately loved, and had got painted like an amazon; but it only kept the name during that emperor's life. At the latter end of this month, they had the *juveniles ludi*; and the country people kept the feaſt of the goddeſs Vacuna in the fields, having then gathered in their fields and ſown their corn; whence ſeems to be derived our popular feſtival of harveſt-home.

Of *events* in this month, principally and only (for what can be compared with it?) we ſhall mention what it is hoped can never be forgot, and what nothing elſe can be claſſed with, the Nativity; uſually celebrated on the 25th of this month. As to the antiquity of the feſtival of Chriſtmas, the firſt footſteps we find of it are in the ſecond century, about the time of the emperor Commodus. The decretal epiſtles, indeed, carry it up a little higher; and ſay that Teleſphorus, who lived in the reign of Antoninus Pius, ordered divine ſervice to be celebrated, and an angelical hymn to be ſung, the night before the nativity of our Saviour. However, that it was kept before the times of Conſtantine we have a melancholy proof: for while the perſecution raged under Diocleſian, who then kept his court at Nicomedia, that prince, among other acts of cruelty, finding multitudes of Chriſtians aſſembled together to celebrate Chriſt's nativity, commanded the church doors where they were met to be ſhut, and fire to be put to it, which, in a ſhort time, re-

duced them and the church to aſhes. Some doubts have been entertained whether December be the proper month of our Saviour's nativity, although it has always been obſerved as ſuch by almoſt general conſent, but on the merits of this queſtion it is impoſſible at preſent to enter, nor is it very material.

Of illuſtrious *births*, the firſt, in point of antiquity, on our liſt, is that of Horace, who for lyric poetry ſtands unrivalled. The name of Horace, it has been well obſerved by a judicious critic, cannot be mentioned without a particular encomium. That *curioſa felicitas*, which Petronius has remark, ed in his expreſſion; the ſweetneſs, elegance, and ſpirit of many of his odes, the thorough knowledge of the world, the excellent ſentiments, and natural eaſy manner which diſtinguiſh his ſatires and epiſtles, all contribute to render him one of thoſe very few authors whom one never tires of reading; and from one alone, were every other monument deſtroyed, we ſhould be led to form a very high idea of the taſte and genius of the Auguſtan age. The peculiar character, in which he excells, is grace and elegance; and in the ode, no poet has ever attained to a greater perfection. No poet ſupports a moral ſentiment with more dignity, touches a gay one more happily, or poſſeſſes the art of trifling more agreeably when he chooſes to trifle. His language is ſo fortunate, that with a ſingle word or epithet, he often conveys a whole deſcription to the fancy. Hence he ever has been, and ever will continue to be, a favourite author with all perſons of taſte.

Milton, our celebrated Engliſh poet, was born in this month. Volumes have been written to illuſtrate his merits, and as he has already been noticed in theſe Memorabilia, we ſhall ſum up the character of his greateſt work in the language of Blair. Paradiſe Loſt is a poem that abounds with beauties of every kind, and that juſtly entitles its author to a degree of fame not inferior to any poet; though it muſt be alſo admitted to have many inequalities. It is the lot of almoſt every high and daring genius, not to be uniform and correct. Milton is too frequently theological and metaphyſical; ſometimes harſh in his language, often technical in his words, and affectedly oſtentatious of his learning. Many of his faults muſt be attributed to the pedantry of the age in which he lived. He diſcovers a vigour, a graſp of genius equal to every thing that is great; if at ſometimes he falls much below himſelf, at other times he riſes above every poet, of the ancient or modern world.—Of ſir Iſaac Newton, Henry IV of France, and Boerhaave, the celebrated phyſician, likewiſe born in this month, we have ſpoken in former articles. One only demands ſpecific notice, John Kepler, the greateſt aſtronomer perhaps that any age has produced. He was a native of the dutchy of Wirtemberg. The higheſt deference has been paid to his authority, and the higheſt eulogiums to his memory, by men of the greateſt genius in phyſical knowledge and aſtronomy, who have flouriſhed ſince his time. Des Cartes owns his obligations to him upon many occaſions; and ſo does our immortal countryman ſir Iſaac Newton. Yet it is worth remembering, becauſe it may be uſeful to men of other profeſſions as well as aſtronomers, that Kepler lived and died poor.

Of illuſtrious *deaths*, we have ſome characters already alluded to, as Cicero, the Roman orator, philoſopher, and one of their moſt celebrated writers; and Charles XII, the illuſtrious warrior and king of Sweden; but there remain ſome names of very conſiderable fame hitherto unnoticed. Among theſe is Vaſco de Gama, immortalized by his diſcovery of the paſſage to the Eaſt Indies by the Cape of Good Hope. He was a native of Portugal, and made this important diſcovery in 1497. When he ſet out from Liſbon, he was generally

conſidered as going to certain deſtruction, and the whole equipment as devoted; but although on his approach to the Cape, he actually encountered dreadful ſtorms, his perſeverance was not to be conquered. Like Columbus, he had to contend with the mutinous deſpondence of his own people, as well as with the elements, but was ſuperior to all. The poem of Camoens, entitled the 'Luſiad,' on this expedition, is well known. Another foreigner, illuſtrious for the conqueſt of Mexico, Fernando Cortez, alſo died in this month. It has been a queſtion with philoſophers, however, how far the riches of Mexico and Peru have added to the happineſs of the conquerors.

We paſs from theſe to a ſingular character of our own nation, prior, indeed, in point of time, Thomas à Becket, the turbulent and ambitious archbiſhop of Canterbury, in the reign of Henry II. His temper procured him enemies, and a hint from the king, encouraged ſome perſons to aſſaſſinate him in the cathedral of Canterbury. But Becket was canonized, and king Henry did penance at Canterbury in the moſt humiliating manner. Miracles were ſaid to be wrought at his tomb, and his ſhrine was viſited from all parts, and enriched with the moſt coſtly offerings and gifts.

Algernon Sidney, who ſet up Marcus Brutus as his pattern, died, like him, a martyr to the cauſe of liberty, in this month. He was accuſed of high treaſon on the ſame ground as the virtuous lord Ruſſel. His character does not upon the whole appear in ſo amiable a light. Burnet ſays, that he was a man of moſt extraordinary courage; a ſteady man, even to obſtinacy; ſincere, but of a rough and boiſterous temper, that could not bear contradiction. He ſeemed to be a Chriſtian, but in a particular form of his own; he thought it was to be like a divine philoſophy in the mind: but he was againſt all public worſhip, and every thing that looked like a church. He was ſtiff to all republican principles; and ſuch an enemy to every thing that looked like monarchy, that he ſet himſelf in a high oppoſition againſt Cromwell, when he was made protector.

Of the ſame age, was ſir Matthew Hale, chief-juſtice of the King's-bench, and one of the moſt upright judges and pious men upon record. He was made ſerjeant at law in Cromwell's time, in which ſituation he acted with great integrity and courage. He had at firſt great ſcruples concerning the authority under which he was to act; and after having gone two or three circuits, he refuſed to ſit any more on the crown ſide; that is, to try any more criminals. He had indeed ſo carried himſelf in ſome trials, that the powers then in being were not unwilling he ſhould withdraw himſelf from meddling any farther in them. Burnet gives a curious inſtance of this, which we ſhall relate, as the other particulars of judge Hale's life and character are commonly known. Soon after he was made a judge, a trial was brought before him, upon the circuit at Lincoln, concerning the murder of one of the townſmen, who had been of the king's army, and was killed by a ſoldier of the garriſon there. He was in the field with a fowling-piece on his ſhoulder, which the ſoldier ſeeing, he came to him and ſaid, he was acting againſt an order the protector had made, viz. 'that none who had been of the king's party ſhould carry arms;' and ſo would have forced the piece from him. But the other not regarding the order, and being the ſtronger man, threw down the ſoldier; and having beat him, left him. The ſoldier went to the town, and telling a comrade how he had been uſed, got him to go with him, and help him to be revenged on his adverſary. They both watched his coming to town, and one of them went to him to demand his gun; which he refuſing, the ſoldier ſtruck at him; as they were ſtruggling, the other came behind, and ran his ſword into his body, of which he pre-

ſently died. It was in the time of the aſſizes, ſo they were both tried. Againſt the one there was no evidence of malice prepenſe, and he was only found guilty of manſlaughter, and burnt in the hand; but the other was found guilty of murder; and though colonel Whaley, who commanded the garriſon, came into the court, and urged, that the man was killed only for diſobeying the protector's orders, and that the ſoldier was but doing his duty; yet the judge regarded both his reaſonings and threatenings very little, and therefore not only gave ſentence againſt him, but ordered the execution to be ſo ſuddenly done, that it might not be poſſible to procure a reprieve.

To theſe we have to had, Mr. Robert Boyle, a moſt diſtinguiſhed philoſopher and chymiſt, and an exceeding good man. It has been juſtly remarked, that no family perhaps ever produced in ſo ſhort a time ſo many diſtinguiſhed perſons, as the houſe of Boyle. The great earl of Corke; the lord Broghill; our excellent philoſopher and man, Mr. Robert Boyle, the lord Carleton; Charles earl of Orrery; lord viſcount Shannon, the general; the earl of Shannon; ſo long ſpeaker of the houſe of commons in Ireland; and the reſtorer of taſte in architecture, the late earl of Burlington; were the ornaments of this illuſtrious line.—Nothing can exceed the character general conſent has beſtowed on Robert Boyle. He is ſaid to have had the juſteſt conception of truth that the human mind can frame; ſo cautious in examining and reporting, as to avoid in the opinion of all true judges, the leaſt imputation of credulity; and, on the other hand, ſo well acquainted with the power of nature, that he never preſumed to ſet any limits thereto, or hindered any acceſſion of knowledge, by that ſort of incredulity which ſometimes attends ſuperior learning. Conſidered in every light, as a man, as a philoſopher, as a Chriſtian, he came as near perfection as the defects of human nature would allow; and, though he never ſought it, yet the moſt univerſal praiſe, both at home and abroad, waited on his labours living, and have conſtantly attended his memory: for it may be truly ſaid, that never any fame was more unqueſtioned, than that of Mr. Boyle's both was and is; and we may with great ſafety add, that as he is the peculiar honour of his family, and the great glory of this nation, ſo foreigners, who cannot contend with us in theſe points, endeavour to outvie us in their commendations.

The pious James Hervey, forms the laſt on our liſt, a name which will be remembered as long as that elegant and uſeful book, 'The Meditations,' retains its popularity, and few works have been more popular. His charity was remarkable. It was always his deſire to die juſt even with the world, and to be, as he called it, his own executor. His fund almoſt expired with his life; what little remained he deſired might be given in warm clothing to the poor, in the ſevere ſeaſon in which he died, December 25, 1758. His works have been often reprinted, but of the 'Meditations,' editions have been multiplied beyond all reckoning.

We have now concluded the ſeries of monthly articles, under the title of Memorabilia. One chief purpoſe was to give a ſketch, and only a ſketch, of ſuch events in hiſtory as are connected with certain periods, and brief notices of ſuch illuſtrious characters as deſerve to be remembered by poſterity, and the memory of whom recurs with moſt force on the days, which may happen to be the anniverſaries of their births or deaths. We are conſcious that many events of great importance, and the names of many great and illuſtrious characters, have been omitted, and we have purpoſely omitted thoſe of very recent date; but let it be remembered, that the preſent article is rather a ſketch or plan of what may be done, than the completion of a work. It will not be difficult for the reader to make up deficiencies in his own way on this plan, and aſſiſt his

memory with ſuch recollections as may contribute largely to pleaſing and rational converſation.

Many general reflections may ariſe from what we have executed, however imperfectly. Among theſe, it is none of the leaſt conſolations which accrues from a retroſpect of this kind, that ſo many events of dignity and importance belong to the hiſtory of Great Britain, and that ſo many truly illuſtrious and excellent characters were natives of this highly-favoured iſle. Yet we may alſo reflect upon the periſhable nature of fame. Had our liſts been increaſed from the general biographies, they would ſtill have born no proportion to that immenſe number of able, good and uſeful men, who flouriſhed in their day and generation, but who are heard of no more, or noticed in books, with a ſlight remembrance. It has been the lot of few to tranſmit their names and their works together to a diſtant poſterity, and to appreciate the various merits which have entitled different men to this diſtinction, would lead to a very curious diſquiſition. In general, however, they may be reſolved into wiſdom, bravery, and genius. Theſe operating in various ways, have filled up the niches in the temple of fame, and afford that ſeemingly diſcordant maſs which we find in the repoſitories of the illuſtrious dead, and particularly in our abbey of Weſtminſter.

With reſpect to the love of poſthumous fame, which have approved as a juſtifiable motive of action, and others have cenſurud as a ridiculous pride, it may be obſerved, that it is the love of what is very precarious. It depends upon a future generation, upon opinions that are wavering, upon a people that are advancing in right notions, and what may be thought praiſeworthy in one age, may in the next be condemned as atrocious. On the contrary, the advancement of human reaſon, and the powers of inveſtigation candidly applied, will ſometimes bring a character from obſcurity into notice. It is well known that Milton's works remained a very conſiderable time in obſcurity, and the author had not a greater reward than would, under ſimilar circumſtances, be now conſidered as an inſult—*fifteen pounds* for his Paradiſe Loſt!—Even our Shakſpeare owes no ſmall degree of fame to the induſtry of modern criticiſm. Variations, likewiſe, in public opinion, make public men and public meaſures be viewed at different times in ſuch different lights, that without recurring to the immutable principles of right and wrong, our ideas would become very confuſed.—One thing, however, is certain; what is ornamental may change, what is ambitious may appear contemptible, what is wicked will periſh in oblivion, or be revived only to be cenſured; but what is good and uſeful in human life and action, will be handed down to the lateſt poſterity, with a luſtre which cannot be dimmed by prejudice, and a praiſe which cannot be leſſened by the artifices of perverſion.

CLAUDE DE L'ESPINE.

IN noble and generous minds, a breach of friendſhip induces no breach of confidence. L'Eſpine and an old friend of his, from whom he had the misfortune to be eſtranged for a time, were competitors for the ſame place. He thus addreſſed him on the occaſion: 'Sir, you are ſoliciting a certain great ſituation as well as myſelf. I am well informed that yeſterday, in an audience that you had with his majeſty, you endeavoured to render me ſuſpected by him. Should I put into his hands the incloſed letters and papers of yours, you would be moſt completely out of his favour, and I ſhould get rid of a baſe and inſidious enemy. I return them all to you. When you wrote me theſe letters, and when you ſent me theſe papers, we were friends. I ought not then to make an improper uſe of that confidence with which your friendſhip for me at that time inſpired you.'

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, November.

D.	H.	Baro.	T. out	T. in	H.	C.	Wind.	Weather, &c.
1	8	30,25	41	50	65	2	W 1	ſlight fog
F	2	30,25	52,5	53	64	3	WSW 1	. cloudleſs eve : clear
2	8	29,98	49,5	53	67	4	S 1	. more cloudy : little wet
	2	29,82	52	54,5	66	5	S 2	. much gentle rain : fair. fine
3	8	29,42	50	54	65	3	SSW 2	. heavy ſhowers and hail at times
	2	29,43	48,5	50	63	2	WSW 2	. cloudy at times : clear
4	8	29,44	41,5	51	64	0	SSW 1	hazy. thick upward
	2	29,42	47	52	59	h	SW 1	: clear
5	8	29,57	37	49	63	0	W 1	hazy. fine
	2	29,72	48	51	60	3	W 2	. thick upward at eve. fine. cloudy : little
6	8	29,82	45	50,5	69	f	SSE 1	much rain [rain
	2	29,51	50	52	82	h	E 1	drizzling. chiefly fair. cloudy night
7	8	29,78	48	52	72	3	SW 1	: thick upward
	2	29,62	52	53	71	h	S 2	little rain. more wind at night. fine : cloudy
8	8	29,33	51,5	54,5	69	5	SW 3	
	2	29,32	53,5	55	66	5	SW 3	. much rain : more wind and much rain. fair
9	8	28,90	,5	56	76	5	S 3	. leſs wind : ſtormy wind and rain. leſs wind
	2	29,11	52,5	53,5	67	5	W 4	little rain. fine and little wind
10	8	29,95	40,5	50	64	2	WSW 1	. foggy. fine : cloudy
	2	29,84	50,5	53,5	67	5	SE 2	. rainy night : cloudy and chiefly fair
11	8	29,52	57	56,5	76	h	SSW 1	. rain : fine
	2	29,41	58,5	59	74	3	S 2	. cloudy. rain at eve : clear
12	8	29,79	40,5	53	64	2	SW 2	
	2	29,86	47	54	63	1	W 1	hazy. brighter eve
13	8	30,09	38	51	66	3	WSW 1	foggy
	2	30,14	45,5	52	64	2	WSW 1	hazy. thick upward at night : little ſmall rain
14	8	30,03	53	53	75	h	SSW 3	. little ſmall rain : fine
	2	30,03	54,5	55	68	3	WSW 2	: cloudy. little rain
15	8	29,62	52	55	72	6	SSW 2	rain. fine : little rain. fine
	2	29,52	51,5	55,5	65	3	WSW 1	: cloudy. little rain
16	8	29,66	47,5	53	68	5	W 1	foggy
N	2	29,66	50	56	67	4	WNW 1	. thick upward at eve. little wet : fine
17	8	29,63	44	54	63	1	NW 1	: cloudy
	2	29,69	47,5	55	62	5	NW 2	. little rain at night : fine
18	8	30,01	43,5	52,5	69	3	N 1	
	2	30,12	47	51	64	4	N 1	. clear eve
19	8	30,30	38	49	66	1	N 1	foggy
	2	30,32	43,5	50	65	2	N 1	. thick upward at eve. clear
20	8	30,44	37	48	66	f	N 0	not cloudy. fine
	2	30,49	43	50	65	1	N 0	hazy. foggy eve
21	8	30,40	42,5	48,5	65	f	W 1	. little rain. fine. thick upward : rain
	2	30,29	42	45,5	68	f	W 1	rain. fair. clear night
22	8	30,32	36,5	47,5	65	2	NNW 1	foggy. cloudy
	2	30,27	45	50	67	5	W 1	
23	8	29,94	44,5	48	67	f	SSW 1	. cloudy. fine : more cloudy
	2	29,88	49,5	50,5	65	4	SW 2	. fine. cloudy eve. rain : fair
24	8	29,70	47	51	67	f	S 1	. much gentle rain
	2	29,60	49	53	70	h	S 2	continual rain and more wind at night
25	8	29,11	51,5	53	72	h	S 4	chiefly rain and leſs wind
	2	29,13	42,5	52,5	68	h	WSW 2	. little rain. fine eve. thick upward
26	8	29,42	37,5	45,5	66	h	N 1	. fine
	2	29,55	40,5	50	62	1	W 2	
27	8	29,76	33,5	47,5	65	1	SW 1	foggy
	2	29,76	39,5	48	65	1	WSW 1	ſlight fog. thick upward at night : little wet
28	8	29,87	35	46	66	f	NW 1	: fine
	2	29,94	39	48	67	4	WNW 1	. leſs cloudy eve, thick upward : rain
29	8	29,93	37,5	46,5	68	f	W 1	. little rain. fine
	2	30,02	44	48	67	0	NW 1	. cloudy night : rain. fair
30	8	30,09	40	46	68	h	WSW 2	: fine
	2	30,11	47,5	48	67	3	WNW 1	. cloudleſs hazy night

REMARKS *on the State of the* AIR, VEGETATION, *&c. in* November.

9. AT midday the wind, which had been briſk for thirty-ſix hours, ſuddenly increaſed to a violent ſtorm, and continued with unremitting force for an hour, when its violence began to abate, and in ſix hours there was ſcarcely any wind. The ſtorm did conſiderable damage in all the ſouthern parts of England, but its ill effects did not extend to the ſouth borders of Yorkſhire.—21. Mulberry-trees have ſhed all their foliage.—29. Crocuſes and ſnowdrops begin to appear above ground.—This month has been very rainy, but the fogs uſually accompanying it have been trifling, and the air mild in general.

Rain 4 inches 9 hundredths.

OBSERVATIONS *on the* DISEASES *in* November.

TYPHUS fever ſtill continued to prevail, and rather with increaſed mortality. In the courſe of the month a fever, differing materially in many of its ſymptoms, was obſerved; the pulſe was weak and very frequent, the tongue was moiſt and very white, and the ſkin was moiſt and cool; but there was a great determination to the head, producing a conſtant and ſtrong delirium; it frequently proved fatal on the fifth day, and the mortality was conſiderable, but it did not appear to be contagious; large accumulations of very dark coloured and acrid bile took place, which if early evacuated, by large doſes of calomel aſſiſted by other purgatives, the ſucceeding ſymptoms became milder; leeches applied to the temples relieved occaſionally the delirium, to which bliſters ſeemed likewiſe to contribute; after purging, pretty large doſes of antimonial medicines were given with advantage; the urine was rather ſparing in quantity, and in general high coloured. Meaſles was very rarely met with; but ſmallpox was more frequent than it has lately been, and rather more fatal. One inſtance of cowpox having produced death, is noticed in the bills of mortality; but how far this is to be depended on is a matter of doubt. At the end of the month, ſcarlet fever was frequently met with, but not very malignant. The burials, from the 29th of October to the 2d of December, were 2565.

THE GLEANER.

NUMBER XXVIII.

Each moment has its ſickle, emulous
Of Time's enormous ſithe, whoſe ample ſweep
Strikes empires from the root; each moment plays
His little weapon in the narrower ſphere
Of ſweet domeſtic comfort, and cuts down
The faireſt bloom of ſublunary bliſs. YOUNG.

AS, before this paper can reach the eye of the reader, the EIGHTEENTH CENTURY will have completely expired, it may be expected that I ſhould take ſome notice of an event which never before happened in the life of any of my readers, and will never happen again; the concluſion of the very long period of one hundred years! Some of my correſpondents, indeed, have gone ſo far as to impoſe this on me as a taſk, and others have reminded me of it as a duty. The former wiſh, undoubtedly, to know

what can be ſaid upon an occaſion that never occurred before in any of our memories, and never will occur again, and the latter gives me warning, that when, hereafter, my papers ſhall be peruſed by thoſe, who cannot now read, they will be equally ſurpriſed and offended to find that I have omitted to mention ſo very extraordinary a circumſtance as the concluſion of one century and the beginning of another.

But theſe correſpondents, however peremptorily they lay their commands, as they deal in generals, and ſeem to leave me entirely at liberty to treat the ſubject as I pleaſe, or am able, are ſtill more merciful than another ſet of adviſers, who have favoured me with their inclinations on the preſent occaſion. The contents of ſome of their letters I ſhall now lay before my readers, not to expoſe the writers, nor to expreſs my diſlike, far leſs contempt of their counſels, but merely to add another confirmation to that old ſaying, which expreſſes how difficult it is to 'pleaſe every body.'

MERCATOR, after politely complimenting me for the *paſt*, though not without an oblique inſinuation, that I ſeem to have wholly overlooked the true intereſts of a commercial nation, adviſes me, by way of a *finiſh*, to take a retroſpect of the progreſs of trade for the laſt, or eighteenth century; its rapid advancement from the ſtate it was in in king William's days, to its vaſt ſucceſs in ours, branching into a thouſand new channels, and ſtretching its gigantic arms over the whole habitable globe, and particularly from the banks of the Thames to thoſe of the Ganges. He aſſures me, that this ſurvey will afford me infinite ſcope for *an admirable paper*, in which, beſide the hiſtory of commerce, conſidered in itſelf, I might introduce the riſe of the Honourable Eaſt India Company from the time they attained their charter in 1702, and were called 'The United Company of Merchants trading to the Eaſt Indies,' when they were, literally, a company of *merchants*, until the preſent time, when they are *ſovereigns* of a territory, nearly as large as all Europe; including all their wars, and particularly thoſe with Hyder Ali, and his worthy ſon Tippoo Saib. This, he thinks, would afford me great ſcope for reflection. Combined in this *paper*, too, he ſuggeſts, that a ſketch of the Hiſtory of the Bank, from the time there was room enough to do buſineſs in Grocer's hall, till the preſent day, when the immenſe *town* in Threadneedle-ſtreet, inſulated on all ſides for protection, is ſcarcely ſufficient for their vaſt concerns. To this I might add, an account of the riſe of private banks, entirely the produce of the eighteenth century, and the glory of Lombard-ſtreet, the bankers, previous to that period, being only goldſmiths and ſilverſmiths, who lent money on plate, and other valuables. The affairs of the South Sea Company might alſo afford me an excellent epiſode. But my principal attention, my correſpondent thinks, ought to be directed to the quantity of exports and imports, the ſtatements on the books of the Cuſtom-houſe, the price of various commodities, the riſe of brokers, inſurers, factors, and other intermediate men; and he throws out a fly hint about the origin of Mark-lane and Bear-key, which I perfectly underſtand. He aſſures me, that the net amount of the Cuſtoms in 1701 was no more than 1,352,764l. and has ſince exceeded ſeven millions. I ſhall not take further notice of the documents he has furniſhed, nor of the plan which he has laid down, except to inform him, that I have taken the advice of two eminent printers, and an eminent bookſeller, who aſſure me, that the *paper* he wiſhes me to write cannot be contained in leſs than two volumes folio.

Another correſpondent, who ſigns himſelf POLITICUS, thinks I might find ſubject for a paper by reviewing the Hiſtory of Europe for the century, beginning principally with the war between England and France, againſt the attempts of the French to

eſtabliſh univerſal monarchy, and concluding with the preſent war againſt the attempt of the ſame people to eſtabliſh univerſal republicaniſm, or univerſal anarchy under that name. He thinks I might likewiſe include the hiſtory and revolutions of Spain, Italy, Germany, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, &c. and find matter for a very entertaining diſcuſſion on the riſe of Pruſſia and Ruſſia during this period; how, in 1702, the dukes of Pruſſia took the title of king, and of what conſequence they have been ſince, and how the czars of Muſcovy became emperors of all the Ruſſias; how many kingdoms have been blotted out, and how many blotted in to the map of Europe. But ſhould my taſte leſs incline me to foreign politics, he is of opinion our own country may afford ſufficient matter for *one paper*, provided I take proper notice of the union with Scotland at the beginning, and the union with Ireland at the end of the century, with the two rebellions for the pretender, together with the political government of Great Britain for the laſt hundred years: the riſe of the funding ſyſtem, and the progreſs of the national debt; the increaſe of taxes, &c. All this, he thinks, might be ſufficient, if added to the wars in which Great Britain has been concerned during the ſame period, ſuch as five wars with France, five with Spain, one with America, and two with Holland, the hiſtory of which could not fail to ſupply me with curious matter. Digreſſions might occaſionally be made to the biography of eminent ſtateſmen and legiſlators; and upon the whole he hopes I will not neglect ſo fair an opportunity to touch upon theſe ſubjects; and this I certainly would not neglect, if, upon the moſt accurate computation I could make, I had not found that this taſk would find me employment for three or four years.

AGRESTIS is ſomewhat more reaſonable. Impreſſed with a ſerious conſideration of the diſtreſſes of the times, and adverting to the ſubjects which have ſo properly engaged the attention of the legiſlature, not only as temporary, but as permanent remedies, he thinks it would be very ſeaſonable, if I were to conclude the labours of the century with a review of the hiſtory and progreſs of agriculture during the ſame; ſpecifying the various improvements that have been introduced in the implements of huſbandry, in manuring, hoeing, draining, ſowing, reaping, threſhing, and other operations of the farm. He thinks, too, that I might take into conſideration the ſtate of the land as to produce. He aſſures me that the quantity of waſte lands in Great Britain, by an accurate computation, amounts to more than twenty-two millions of acres, which if cultivated only upon a ſmall ſcale, would yield a profit to the community of more than thirty millions of pounds *per ann.* Theſe, and other ſtatements he has pointed out, reſpecting the quantity of corn imported and exported in the courſe of the century, are no doubt highly valuable, but beſide that they would be a little out of place in the works of one who does not profeſs to be a grower, but a humble GLEANER, I am of opinion the plan as laid down could not be compriſed in leſs than three or four octavo volumes, and therefore I muſt take the liberty to decline it.

THEOLOGUS does not wiſh me to wander quite ſo far from my purpoſe. He begins with ſtating, that religion is the buſineſs of every man, and more eſpecially of one who profeſſes, as the Gleaner does, to be a moral writer; for all morality that has not its foundation in religion, will be found cold, lifeleſs, and unprofitable. He wiſhes therefore, that I would take a ſhort retroſpect of the progreſs of the Chriſtian religion for the laſt hundred years, throughout Europe, Aſia, Africa, and America, marking its progreſs in ſome places, and its decline in others, and aſcertaining, as far as it is poſſible to aſcertain, the cauſes thereof. He thinks many important

queſtions may ariſe thence, as whether, upon the whole, its advanced progreſs has been in proportion to its acknowledged value? Whether thoſe countries in which it has been moſt ſucceſsfully propagated, have not enjoyed a ſtate of happineſs and proſperity far beyond thoſe in which it has been deſpiſed, or totally abandoned by public force and authority? Should it appear too tedious to travel abroad in ſearch of materials for a paper on this ſubject, he is of opinion our own country may afford enough; by enquiring into the hiſtory of the eſtabliſhed church, the riſe of the methodiſts, and other ſectaries: the progreſs of opinion, the declenſion from right principles, and the revival of ancient hereſies under new names. And ſhould I be diſpoſed for digreſſion, what more appoſite than the preſbyterians of Scotland, or the Roman catholics of Ireland, which have contributed moſt to the peace, good order and morals of their country? The decline of popery, alone, he hints, may afford many curious details, and give me an opportunity for many ſalutary reflections, and he concludes with congratulating the public, that out of three enemies we had to contend with at the beginning of the century, namely, the devil, the pope, and the pretender, *two* are very nearly completely defeated. It may not, perhaps, be neceſſary to add, that there are difficulties even in the ſcheme of this correſpondent, which terrify me from the undertaking, if I muſt be reſtricted to *one* paper, or *twenty!*

MYRTILLA writes with an air of gayety and livelineſs on the ſubject of faſhions; ſhe ſays ſhe has ſeen a great many, indeed a vaſt many in her ſhort time (intimating that ſhe will not be nineteen until the nineteenth century is begun) but that of all things, ſhe ſhould like to have an account of the faſhions of one hundred years: what a number! what choice! what a curious and valuable aſſortment! And ſhe hints, that beſide a printed account of all theſe faſhions, ſhe would wiſh to have accurate engravings accompanying them, beautifully coloured *from nature.*—Some delineating the riſe and fall of heads—ſome the circumference of waiſts—others the various extenſions and contractions of the petticoat—ſome the ſhape of a ſhoe—and others, the knot of a riband—with all the varieties, forms, modes, lengths, breadths, heights, and protuberances, of lappets, caps, bonnets, tuckers, gowns, chemiſes, cloaks, ſpenſers, peliſſes, laces, trimmings, edgings, frills, hoods, aprons, trains, bodies, &c. &c. together with patterns of all manner of ſilks, muſlins, linens, chintz, India and Britiſh, or French, from the huge patterns, like carpets of our anceſtors, to the preſent, pretty, neat and *tidy* flowers and *thingumbobs*; with a digreſſion on the manufactures of Mancheſter: the riſe and progreſs of hair-powder, and hair-dreſſing in all its branches, curls, toupees, braids, cuſhions, mareſchal, *eau de luce*, bergamot, lavender, roſe-water, pomatum and paint in all its agreeable varieties, from the languiſhing paleneſs of diſappointed love, and 'green and yellow melancholy,' to the lively emblems of ſucceſs, the beauteous bluſh of the damaſk roſe.—All this, and much more, my lively correſpondent would incloſe in the compaſs of one poor paper—an Iliad in a nutſhell—a hundred years in the reading of ten minutes. But I muſt beg to be excuſed from the arduous taſk of compreſſing ſo much into ſo little, even although ſhe has referred me for authorities, as to paſt events, to ſeveral aged milliners, mantua-makers, and *friſeurs*, who are enjoying retirement from this vain world in their villas adjoining to the metropolis, comforting their old age with the reflection that carriages may roll upon waſh-balls, and that manſions may be built upon tooth-powder.

Theſe may ſuffice as ſpecimens of the hints thrown out to me at this important and ſingular criſis. To neglect them entirely is as little my

inclination, as to execute them entirely. But for matter of reflection, the period of a century is perhaps too great for the compaſs of the human mind. It is a method of reckoning time, which was chiefly adopted by church hiſtorians, and to them and to other hiſtorians, it may have its uſes. The individual, however, who would meditate on the ſhortneſs of time, muſt fix upon periods more within his own recollection; he muſt concentrate his ideas into a ſmaller ſpace. When he turns to the fate of nations, and the overthrow of empires, he is loſt in a vaſt expanſe of thought, which leads him to the Sovereign Diſpoſer of all events, 'who hath meaſured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meteth out heaven with a ſpan, and comprehendeth the duſt of the earth in a meaſure, and weigheth the mountains in ſcales, and the hills in a balance—before whom the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the ſmall duſt of the balance: behold! he taketh up the iſles as a very little thing.' This ſublime language of Iſaiah ſuggeſts to us, that what is great and beyond our feeble comprehenſion, is yet but a part, and perhaps a ſmall part, of the general diſpenſations of an overruling providence. The century juſt expired, has indeed preſented us with awful revolutions; the laſt ten years have teemed with events which the wiſdom of the preceding ninety could ſcarcely foreſee; and the end thereof is ſtill hidden from our eyes.

The concluſion of a year ſeems a period better ſuited to furniſh us with reflections on the ſhortneſs and uncertainty of human life and happineſs. It is a period within our comprehenſion, and in it we all muſt have, in our circle of friends, beheld many inſtances and proofs of the frail tenure by which we hold our earthly enjoyments. The motto prefixed to this paper, well expreſſes the ravages which time makes in our domeſtic comforts, as well as in the proſperity of nations. 'Each moment has its ſickle.' Truths like theſe it is common to repeat, and from frequent repetition they are accounted *trite*; but nothing can be reckoned trite and common, which has yet loſt its impreſſion. The truth that is not believed, and the precept that is not followed, cannot be deemed unimportant, to be frequently brought forward, and ſedulouſly applied. The gayety of youth, and the unſeaſonable frivolity of old age, are alike neglectful of the uncertainty of human life, but are not alike excuſable. Yet in both what is ſpoken of this awful ſubject ſeems as if ſpoken to others, and not to themſelves. It is a common deluſion to ſhift reflection to our neighbours. 'All men think all men mortal but themſelves.' Yet in what church, or in what houſe, ſince the beginning of laſt year, may not every one of us ſay 'there *ſat*'—and 'there *lived*'—one who began the year in full health and hopes, and who is now numbered with thoſe who are haſtening to oblivion. Examples of this are ſo frequent, that one would think it impoſſible they ſhould fail to make an impreſſion. I know not whether an eminent moraliſt has accounted for this with accuracy, yet the concluſion of the paſſage is ſo appoſite, that I ſhall enrich my paper with it.

'Cuſtom ſo far regulates the ſentiments, at leaſt of common minds, that I believe men may be generally obſerved to grow leſs tender as they advance in age. He who, when life was new, melted at the loſs of every companion, can look in time, without concern, upon the grave into which his laſt friend was thrown, and into which himſelf is ready to fall; not that he is more willing to die than formerly, but that he is more familiar to the death of others, and therefore is not alarmed ſo far as to conſider how much nearer he approaches to his end. But this is to ſubmit tamely to the tyranny of accident, and to ſuffer our reaſon to lie uſeleſs. Every funeral may juſtly be conſidered as a ſum-

mons to prepare for that ſtate, into which it ſhows us that we muſt ſometime enter; and the ſummons is more loud and piercing, as the event of which it warns us is at leſs diſtance. To neglect at any time preparation for death, is to *ſleep on our poſt at a ſiege*, but to omit it in old age, is to *ſleep at an attack*.'

MISCELLANEOUS ANECDOTES.

[From 'Memorials of the Family of Tufton, Earls of Thanet.']

The Sonds Family.

OF this family was ſir George Sonds, bart. of the county of Kent, who had two ſons, arrived almoſt to the age of manhood, and had each a new ſuit of clothes, made of the ſame cloth, and trimmed alike in every thing, ſaving for diſtinction ſake, that the eldeſt had gold buttons, and the youngeſt but ſilver; for which he bore his brother ſuch a grudge and hatred (for nothing elſe could be aſſigned as the cauſe of it) that he barbarouſly murdered him in his bed, as he lay ſleeping by him. He clove his head and brains aſunder with a cleaver, and not ſatisfied with that inhumanity, gave him ſeven or eight ſtabs to the heart with a ſtiletto, and having finiſhed that bloody ſcene, went next away to his father's bed-ſide and told him of it, rather pleaſing himſelf with the diſmal tragedy he had acted, than diſcovering any remorſe or ſorrow. He was immediately apprehended, committed to Maidſtone-jail, condemned at the aſſizes following, and executed accordingly.

Sir Humphry Tufton.

About the middle of the laſt century, we find him engaged in a ſuit in the ſtar chamber, againſt Mr. Chriſtopher Nevil, ſon to the earl of Abergavenny, for a riot; the circumſtances of this affair, worthy in itſelf of ridicule, are but ſparingly detailed, and do little credit to the diſcretion of one, or the honeſty of the other parties. Miſs Margaret Morley had been, it appears, known to Mr. Nevil prior to her marriage with ſir Humphry; he had even gone ſo far as to make certain overtures, which not being conſidered of an honourable caſt, were by her, as they deſerved, rejected; theſe, however, he renewed, after her union with that baronet; ſhe accordingly made her huſband acquainted with the views of Mr. Nevil, and that he had ſolicited her chaſtity, as well before marriage, as ſince. Deſirous of puniſhing this flagrant offence, he cauſed lady Tufton to write letters to Mr. Nevil, by which ſhe gave him hopes of her favours, and appointed one night a place of meeting, but the lover was met, not by his miſtreſs well inclined, as he hoped to find her, but by ſir Humphry himſelf with a friend: they had put on the diſguiſe of female habits for the occaſion: Nevil himſelf happened to be attended in the ſame way, and a quarrel enſued; which got the better is not known: but the vindictive huſband became proſecutor for what he termed a riot, and in this ſenſe it was admitted by the defendant; but on the ſolicitation of the lady's chaſtity he demurred, which was thought good by the court, although the inducement was conſidered as an aggravation of the offence, and the bill was allowed in oppoſition to one brought againſt him by ſir Nevil.

Isle of Thanet.

The iſle of Thanet, from whence this noble family takes its title, is ſituate in the north part of Kent, and is celebrated for being the door through which arts, ſcience, and divine knowlege came into this happy iſland. The Britons called it Richborough Iſle, from its vicinity to the city of that name. The Saxons de-

nominated it Thanet, from a word in their language which ſignifies fire; conjectured to have been ſo named from the many beacons erected in it, to give warning againſt the common enemy. The extent of the iſland is about eleven miles from eaſt to weſt, and nine from north to ſouth. It contains ten pariſhes, and had formerly as many churches, though now only ſeven remain. The ſoil, in general, is ſterile, and through the good management of its occupiers, produces ſuch crops of grain in favourable ſeaſons, as are ſcarcely to be equalled, cultivated in every part with corn or garden-ſtuff, but contains little wood. 'Nor muſt I forget,' (ſays Camden) 'what redounds to the eſpecial praiſe of the inhabitants, particularly of thoſe who live near the ports of Margate, Ramſgate, and Broadſtairs. They are exceſſively induſtrious, getting their living like amphibious animals, both by ſea and land, making the moſt of both elements, being both fiſhermen and ploughmen, ſoldiers and ſailors: the ſame perſons that guide a plough in the field, ſteering the helm at ſea. In the different ſeaſons of the year they make nets, catch cod, herrings, whitings, mackarel, &c.; make trading voyages, manure their lands with ſea-weeds, plough, ſow, harrow, reap, and ſtore their corn, expert in both profeſſions, and ſo carrying on the round of labour. They are likewiſe very active in recovering loſt goods from ſhipwrecked veſſels.'

THANET HOUSE.

THANET-HOUSE in Alderſgate-ſtreet, in the pariſh of St. Botolph, London, was built by the moſt eminent architect of his time in England, Inigo Jones, who ſtudied in Italy under the famous Andrea Palladio, and was the town reſidence of the family of Thanet. It was a magnificent old houſe of the Ionic order, an edifice, ſay the London hiſtorians, that deſerves a better ſituation, and greater care for preſerving it from the injuries of time: but the politeneſs of the town is ſo far removed from hence, that it is hardly poſſible this fabric ſhould be kept, or admired as it ought. It is uncertain when they quitted this manſion for another in Great Ruſſel-ſtreet, but it muſt have been ſome time before the year 1681, for it was then in poſſeſſion of Cooper, earl of Shafteſbury, who had hired or purchaſed it for the purpoſe of living in the city, to inflame the minds of the citizens, among whom he uſed to boaſt he could raiſe 10,000 briſk boys by the holding up of his finger. It was from this houſe he was committed to the Tower, and upon his papers being ſearched, was found the draft of an aſſociation to exclude the duke of York from the throne, and other meaſures highly treaſonable. He alſo attempted to get into the magiſtracy, but being diſappointed in his views, and terrified at the apprehenſions leſt the conſpiracy he had entered into againſt his prince, ſhould be detected, he fled in 1683 to Holland, where he ſoon died of the gout. It has ſince been a tavern, and has undergone various fortunes, until in 1750, it was converted into a lying-in-hoſpital, a moſt humane inſtitution, ſupported by voluntary contributions. [It has ſince been a general diſpenſary] Of the earl of Shafteſbury, Mr. Pennant relates, 'That when he was in power he urged the Dutch war with uncommon animoſity, and always concluded his ſpeeches with *delenda eſt Carthago*. When he fled to Holland he was ſo fearful of being given up, that he ſolicited to be made a burgher of Amſterdam, in order to ſecure his perſon: the magiſtracy conferred on him the privilege, with theſe remarkable words; *A noſtra Carthagine nondum deleta ſalutem accipe.*

FEMALE SHERIFFS AND JUSTICES.

NICHOLAS, earl of Thanet, was ſucceeded by his next brother, John, the fourth earl, born on Auguſt 7, 1638. He alſo ſucceeded his mother Margaret, counteſs of Thanet, as ba-

ron of Clifford, Weſtmoreland and Veſcey, who by her laſt will bearing date the 19th of June 1676, gave the Yorkſhire and Weſtmoreland eſtates to this John, her ſecond ſon, for life: her ladyſhip departed this life on Auguſt 14th following, and he became poſſeſſed of thoſe eſtates, with the hereditary ſheriffdoms of Weſtmoreland and Cumberland; for it frequently happened in thoſe hereditary ſheriffdoms, that female heireſſes became poſſeſſed of them, and were conſequently ſheriffs of thoſe diſtricts; for there are ſeveral inſtances of women bearing that office, as may be ſeen in moſt of the treatiſes in which that duty is mentioned; and thoſe things required by it, not proper to be undertaken by a female, were entruſted to a deputy, or ſhire-clerk in their name. Not only the office of ſheriff, but even juſtice of the peace, has been in the hands of the ſofter ſex; for among the Harleian manuſcripts is a very remarkable note taken from Mr. attorney-general Noy's readings in Lincoln' Inn, in 1632, in which upon the point whether the office of a juſtice of a foreſt might be executed by a woman, it was ſaid that Margaret counteſs of Richmond, mother to Henry VII, was a juſtice of peace; that the lady Bartlet was made a juſtice of peace, by queen Mary, in Glouceſterſhire, and that in Suſſex, one—Reuſe, a woman, did uſually ſit upon the bench at the aſſizes and ſeſſions among other juſtices, *gladio cincta* (girded with a ſword); and it is equally certain, that Anne, counteſs of Pembroke, exerciſed the office of hereditary ſheriff of Weſtmoreland, and at the aſſizes at Appleby, ſat with the judges on the bench, which puts this point beyond a queſtion.

THE THREE BRETHREN TREES.

IN one of the above-mentioned eſtates, called Whinfield Foreſt, ſituate ſix miles from Appleby, in the county of Weſtmoreland, is a ſurprizing large oak tree, which for ſeveral generations has been the admiration of the northern inhabitants, and is deemed ſuch a ſingularity, that Mr. William Todd, formerly of Moorhouſe, in the aforeſaid county, has thought it a ſufficient ſubject to delineate on a plate, and has given an entertaining hiſtorical deſcription thereof. Its ſize may be doubted; I ſhall therefore take the liberty to give the deſcription. Mr. Todd ſays, 'This moſt ſurpriſing large oak tree, has ſtood in this foreſt near two hundred and ſeventy years, by the neareſt computation of the neighbouring inhabitants of that county; it is ſuppoſed to have derived its name from two other trees which formerly ſtood near the place, which being all of ſo wonderful a ſize, and nearly reſembling each other, were therefore called 'The Three Brethren Trees.' The circumference of this (which is ſuppoſed the moſt wonderful of the three) meaſures 14 yards, or 42 feet, being nearly of this thickneſs to the height of fifteen feet from the root; from thence to the branches it diminiſhes proportionably; as to the true height thereof, it is a little uncertain to account for, eſpecially as the top part (together with moſt of the principal branches) has been broken off many years; but to the neareſt eſtimation poſſible, according to my own obſervation, it appears to be at leaſt fifty feet, or nearly: as to the circumference at the top (as it now remains) it may, in reſpect to that proportion be ſuppoſed to have been ten feet higher, excluſive of the ſeveral tall branches, which conſequently have been thereto belonging. Thus it appears, that the true height, as near as poſſible, may be ſaid to have been ſixty feet in ſolid timber, which in reſpect to ſo wonderful a thickneſs is alſo equally admirable—The ſpreading, or ſide branches, are alſo moſtly decayed or broken off, yet what is very ſurpriſing, of thoſe which remain (although but ſtumps) there is one which is obſerved at the ſpring ſeaſons to ſhoot forth and bear leaves.

—If it were poſſible an acorn of this moſt wonderful tree could be procured, it certainly would deſerve a place in the Britiſh Muſeum, and might equally be admired as a curioſity not the eaſt inferior to any one contained therein. Having thus particularly deſcribed the outſide ſituation of this moſt famous tree, I ſhall without doubt more ſurpriſe the reader in giving the inſide deſcription, which, as near reality as poſſible, is as follows. On the north-eaſt ſide, next that of Temple Sowerby, is a large entrance, cut and broken out in form of a door way, where people either walk in on foot, or ride in on horſeback, and though this may appear a ſingular circumſtance, the truth of it is well known to thoſe perſons who have had the curioſity to obſerve it, ſeveral of whom are now in London and other parts of England, &c. As to the inward proſpect, it is rather diſmal than otherwiſe, repreſenting as it were, part of ſome ruinous caſtle, or ancient tower, being ſo much inwardly decayed, as even reduced almoſt to a ſhell: near the top in the cavities within, are ſeveral of thoſe animals called bats, and the martins alſo reſort thither in great numbers: the lower part is moſt wonderfully ſpacious, and will eaſily admit (as before obſerved) of a horſe and man therein to turn about at pleaſure; it is alſo a very convenient receptacle for the deer in ſtormy weather, which in this foreſt are many in number, and are eſteemed not inferior to any in England.'

On CLAY *and* MARLE. *By Mr.* Joſiah Rodwell, *of* Liverpool, *near* Bury, Suffolk *.

[From the Communications to the Board of Agriculture.]

BEING informed that you have voted to an excellent farmer in Surry, juſtly celebrated for his exertions, a mark of your approbation, it has been ſuggeſted to me by ſome neighbours, who have for twenty-eight years viewed what I have done to improve a poor and almoſt waſte tract of land, to ſend you an account of my operations, which I have complied with, truſting that this is the moſt likely method of inducing others to examine well their ſoils, and whatever may be found beneath: my practice is confined and limited, but your attention can ſpread any knowledge throughout the kingdom, and render the exertions of an individual beneficial to a whole nation.

I wiſh, at preſent, to call your notice to the effect of digging and ſpreading marle and clay upon poor dry heaths producing fern and gorſe, but chiefly ling; originally of ſmall value, at beſt yielding but a ſcanty ſupport to ill-fed ſheep.

The Rev. Mr. Lathbury's father, about fifty years ago, was offered any quantity of this heath at fourpence *per* acre: the farm on which I have been working conſiſts of 1400 acres, 700 of which were of this ſort of heath; it had been occupied by my predeceſſor, Mr. Garnham, for thirty-ſix years at the rent of 140l and never more than 150l, the landlord (Bapt. Lee, eſq.) paying tithe; nor did Mr. Garnham at that rent do much more than make a living in it. In 1771, it was valued for raiſing the rent, and 350l a year demanded, not tithe-free, at which rent Mr. Garnham refuſed it, as did ſeveral other farmers, who examined the land; and when I engaged at that rent I was pronounced a ruined man by moſt of my acquaintance who knew the farm. I had a leaſe of thirteen years.

My operations at firſt were to incloſe with thorn hedges, marle or clay, and break up 300 acres of the heath; and in the firſt ſeven years of

* The gold medal of the board was voted to Mr. Rodwell for this communication.

the leaſe I finiſhed what I meant to improve in that term; I marled or clayed 600 acres, at ſeventy loads an acre, being 42,000 large tumbril loads. In this work I employed three teams, two of my own, and one I hired for ſeveral years. It is ſevere work; and the ſecond year I loſt nine horſes, attributed to feeding on pea-ſtraw from the new broken heath, a circumſtance that deſerves the attention of improvers.

In the eleventh year of my leaſe I applied to my landlord for a renewal; on which the farm was valued again by Mr. Hare, the ſurveyor at Peterborough, and I took a freſh leaſe of fifteen years, to commence at the termination of my old one, at the rent of 400l.

I immediately clayed and broke up 200 acres more, at 100 loads an acre, forty buſhels per load, incloſing all with quick hedges, and ditches five feet wide, and four deep; after this, I improved 100 acres more in the ſame manner.

In the two leaſes of twenty-eight years, I clayed or marled 820 acres; and I have clayed or marled ſo much over the ſecond time, at ſeventy loads an acre, that the quantity I have carried in all is very little ſhort of 140,000 loads.

Upon taking a third leaſe, I was, in 1798-9, particularly ſteady to this work, and, in forty-nine weeks and three days, carried 11,275 cubical yards, paying by meaſure of pits, and not by loads, which were filled and ſpread by four men and a boy, and carted by ſix horſes and two tumbrils.

In this buſineſs of carrying clay or marle I have practiſed hand-barrowing; the men can make good earnings at 10d a yard, wheeling it thirty rod; and down to 7d a yard at ſhorter diſtances; and I am much inclined to think, that if we had workmen uſed to the operation, and handy at it, like thoſe employed in navigations, that this method would be of all others the cheapeſt, eſpecially on heavier ſoils. But by far the greateſt part I have done by tumbrils, the expence of which put out is 5d a yard for team, and 2½d a yard for labour, and paying for laying picks, wedges, &c. alſo for ſtones that riſe, increaſe the whole expence to 8d *per* yard, which is at leaſt ½d *per* yard cheaper than I can do it with my own teams: the reaſon of which is, that the man who contracts with me drives his own horſes, and looks after them; at 8½d *per* yard, 140,000 yards have coſt me 4958l, excepting the ſmall proportion hired at ½d a yard lower.

I come now to mention a few circumſtances which I hope may tend to render this paper uſeful to others, not having the experience which I have acquired: I ſhall uſe but few words, but they ſhall be founded on poſitive experiment, or attentive obſervation.

Clay is much to be preferred to marle on theſe ſandy ſoils, ſome of which are looſe, poor, and even a black ſand. By clay is to be underſtood a grey clayey loam, ſome of it brick-earth, and all has with vinegar a ſmall effervеſcence. Marle is a white, greaſy, chalky, ſubſtance, that effervеſces ſtrongly with acids: I make a univerſal rule, on a ſecond improvement, to lay clay on the fields marled before, ſometimes marle where clay was ſpread before; but this not general, as clay anſwers beſt on the whole.

In the tillage of improved lands, I am attentive never to over-crop. My uſual rotation has been,

1. Turnips.
2. Barley.
3. Clover, rye-graſs, and trefoil, one or two years.
4. Peas.
5. Wheat.

On ſome I have ſown oats on the layer, and omitted peas and wheat, which is more favourable to the land; and I ſhould with longer leaſes have done more ſo. Peas, it is true, are an improving crop, but the two coming together are perhaps working the marle too quickly. I have broken ſome heaths up and ſown oats, and even wheat, deſigning to improve on the

ſtubble; but ſowing four buſhels of oats I have gained but ten, and of wheat not more than three coombs * at firſt breaking.

My crops, by managing attentively, have been good; I have had 11½ coombs of barley an acre, and even fourteen, and theſe over large fields; I have had ſeven coombs an acre of peas over ſix ſcore acres, and fine wheat after them.

On ninety acres, clayed 100 loads an acre, I have had after two crops, the one turnips, the other barley, cloſe-feed, and ſold it on the ground for 1000 guineas; then turnips, a famous crop, followed by barley, on ſeventy-five acres, ſixteen coombs an acre; and by oats on fifteen acres (poorer land) ten coombs an acre. Theſe crops are for the ſoil great; but in general my products have been highly to my ſatisfaction.

In regard to other manures, my farm has had the fold of from forty to forty-eight ſcore ſheep; they manure, one year with another, 150 acres; and I am never without bullocks for increaſing the farm-yard dung. I top fold wheat from the beginning of November till Chriſtmas, and even till February, and venture it on clayed land at the hazards of froſts at ſunriſe, which ſometimes injures it much, but the effect in general is great. Of all mucking, that for turnips pays me beſt, particularly on clayed land: I know many farmers in Norfolk prefer laying it on for wheat, the turnips to have it at ſecond; but I prefer the other method. And let me note, that I uſe long muck to chooſe, which I think far better than turning, mixing, and rotting muck; here alſo are different opinions; I ſpeak only from my own experience. Wheat ſtubble, I think, ſhould always be whelmed in for turnips.

I once ploughed in a fine crop of buck-wheat for turnips, and the crop was ſo much worſe than the reſt of the field, that they were not penned regularly for the ſheep; yet, with this diſadvantage, the barley, following was better than where the turnips were much ſuperior.

I have dibbled largely, and with good ſucceſs, and think it the beſt method; and I approve much of the drill roller as the next beſt.

In tilling theſe improved ſands, it is a common obſervation in Norfolk, that ſhallow ploughing is neceſſary to preſerve the pan: I have not found this the caſe here; but, on the contrary, that the clay and marle works the better the more ſoil it has to incorporate with.

Having thus ſtated, ſhortly, the general managements of my improvements, I now come, with your permiſſion, to the general reſult. Rent will ſpeak this:

It is ſtated, that, twenty-eight years ago, the rent of farm was 150l a year, tithe free, and that it was then raiſed to 350l a year, tithe payable. I may venture to aſſert, that, at that rent, without improvement, it might have ſo ſtood on my landlord's rent roll till doomſday, for a mere living could only be made on it even in good times. But upon my taking the third leaſe, commencing 1799, it was raiſed to 600l a year, at the ſame time that to the full value of 100l a year was taken from it; in other words, the preſent rent is 700l a year. Thus, while, with the bleſſing of God, I have done well in the farm, and have put five children into the world out of twelve living, I have added 350l a year to the value of the eſtate, which, at thirty years purchaſe, is 10,500l; and, relative to the public at large, I may venture to aſſert, that theſe 1400 acres have, in the laſt twenty-eight years, yielded 30,000l worth more of corn, meat, and wool, than they did in the twenty-eight preceding. A fact which tends ſtrongly to ſhow the national importance of improvements in agriculture, and alſo the wiſdom of eſtabliſhing a public board for promoting and encouraging ſuch exertions as may be deemed laudable.

* The coomb is half-a-quarter.

WELSH CUSTOMS.

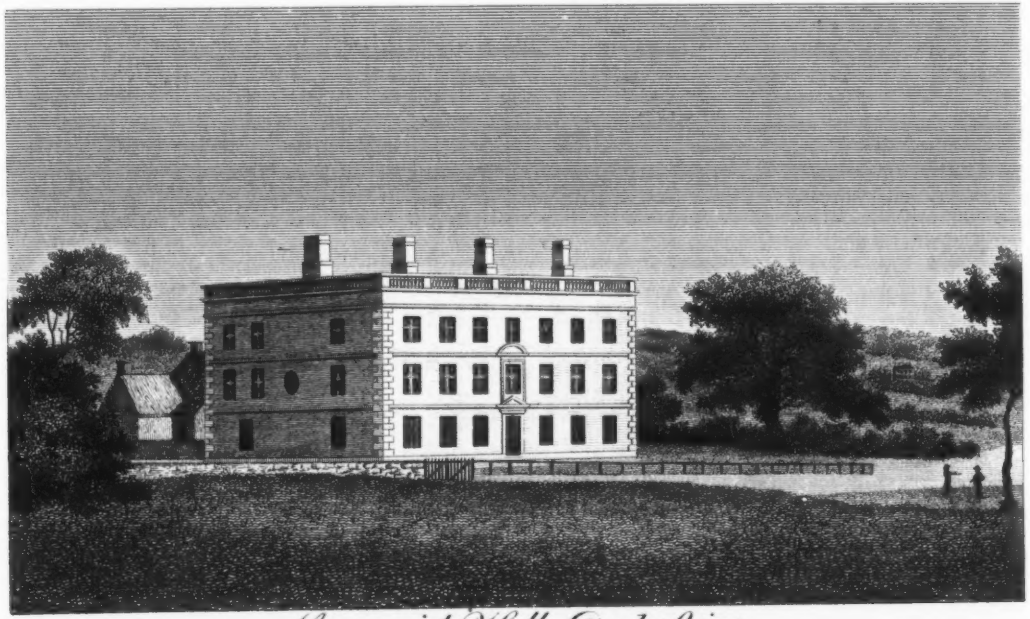
[From Evans' Tour through Part of North Wales.]

PENHRYN DRINKING HORN.

AN old drinking horn is preſerved as a relic of the former hoſpitality of Penhryn; it is conſidered as very ancient, but the initials P. G. &c. tend to a conjecture, that it is not older than the time of Elizabeth. It is a large ox's horn, enriched with ſilver, and ſuſpended by a chain of the ſame metal. Among the ancient Welch, according to the Leges Walliæ, the following diſtinctions prevailed: 1ſt, Y Corn ydd y ſo y Brenin, or the prince's horn;—2d, Corn y Cyweithas, or that by which the domeſtics of the palace were aſſembled;—and 3d, the Corn y pencynydd, the chief huntſman's. On feſtive days, it was a favour granted to the chief officers to drink out of the prince's horn, and to the inferior domeſtics out of thoſe belonging to the ſuperiors. The etiquette of the ceremony was, that its contents (ſtrong metheglin) muſt be quaffed at one tip; and the horn blown by the perſon who drank laſt, to ſhow there was no flinching. Such horns were in uſe among the Saxons, Danes, and Scotch, and moſt northern nations. Johnſon mentions one preſerved at Dunvegan, the ſeat at Macleod; 'An ox's horn hollow, ſo as to hold two quarts, which the heir of Macleod was expected to ſwallow at one draught, as a teſt of his manhood, before he was permitted to bear arms, or could claim a ſeat among the men.' Vide Journ. to the Heb.

DANGEROUS EMPLOY OF EGG-TAKING.

FROM Llandudno to the Ormeſ-head is an elevated down, covered with ſheep, extending for four miles, but not more than one in breadth; the promontory conſiſts of high cliffs of various heights, abounding with large caverns, which afford ſhelter for innumerable birds, ſuch as pigeons, gulls, razor-bills, ravens, guillemots, corvorants, and herons. On the loftieſt crags lurks the peregrine falcon, the bird ſo high in repute while falconry continued a faſhionable amuſement. The eggs of many of theſe birds are ſought after as delicious food, and conſidered as a great treat to the epicurean; the price procured for them is a ſufficient inducement for the poor to follow the adventurous trade of egg-taking: but, in this as in the pearl-fiſhery on the coaſts of Perſia, the gains bear no tolerable proportion to the danger incurred. The adventurers having furniſhed themſelves with every neceſſary implement for the buſineſs, while the ſun affords aſſiſtance by his beams, enter on the terrific undertaking: two, for this is a trade in which copartnerſhip is abſolutely neceſſary, take a ſtation; he, whoſe turn it happens to be, or whoſe ſuperior agility renders it eligible, prepares for the rupreſtrian expedition: a ſtrong ſtake is driven into the ground at ſome diſtance from the edge of the cliff, to which a rope of ſufficient length to reach the loweſt haunts of theſe birds is affixed: faſtening the other end round his middle, and taking the coil on his arm, and laying hold with both his hands, he throws himſelf over the brow of the cliff; placing his feet againſt its ſides, and carefully ſhifting his hands, he gradually deſcends till he comes to the abode of the birds; then, putting his left hand into the hole while he ſuſpends himſelf with the other, he takes poſſeſſion of its contents, carefully placing the eggs in a baſket ſlung at his back for the purpoſe; having deſpoiled all the neſts within his extent of rope, he aſcends by the ſame means to the edge of the cliff, where his partner, whoſe duty hitherto was to guard the ſtake, crawling on hands and knees, affords him aſſiſtance in doubling the cliff, which otherwiſe he would be unable to do. Dangerous



Swanwick Hall, Derbyshire.

employ! a ſlip of the foot or the hand would in an inſtant be fatal to both: inſtances have occurred, where the weight of the one overcoming the ſtrength of the other, both have been precipitated down the craggy ſteep, and their mangled carcaſſes been buried in the ocean: but theſe are rare. To a ſtranger and by-ſtander this occupation appears more dangerous than it really is: in perſons habituated to bodily difficulty the nervous ſyſtem becomes gradually braced, and the ſolids attain that ſtate of rigidity which baniſhes irritability; while the mind, accuſtomed to ſcenes of danger, loſes that timidity which frequently leads to the dreaded diſaſter. To the perſon whoſe heart palpitates in the near approach to ſuch heights, it muſt appear a preſumptuous employ, and daily inſtances of its fatality might be expected: but fact demonſtrates the contrary, and ſerves to prove how much we are the creatures of habit, and to what an extent difficulty and danger may be made ſubordinate to art and perſeverance.

State of Husbandry.

In conſequence of the poverty of the ſoil and ſtate of huſbandry, the harveſt is very late; and frequently, from the uncertain ſtate of the weather, a difficulty occurs of procuring the ſcanty crops upon which their exiſtence depends. It often happens, that the ſtrength of hands is not adequate to the labour, and a poor farmer is in danger of being ruined. But there is a natural ſympathy among the Welch that provides for this adverſe circumſtance. Senſible of the evil ariſing from a ſcanty crop badly houſed, they form ſocieties of aſſiſtance, called *cymmorthean tynhauaf*. As ſoon as one or two farmers have finiſhed their own, or what portion is ready, they immediately repair, with their ſervants and horſes, to aſſiſt their backward neighbour. This they do without any other fee or reward than their maintenance, and the conſciouſneſs that ariſes from the performance of an act of brotherly kindneſs. We have ſeen numbers engaged in this amiable occupation, and the pleaſure they felt might be deduced from their clamorous exultation. If the ſky lowers, and gathering clouds forebode a ſtorm likely to mar their friendly intentions, the noiſe increaſes, exertion is redoubled, and they ſeem more anxious to ſecure their neighbour's produce than their own. The deſirable end accompliſhed, they return with ſhouting to the houſe, where, congratulating the farmer's good fortune, they expreſs their mutual happineſs in acts of cheering feſtivity.

An Account of Swanwick Hall, *in* Derbyſhire: *With an elegant Perſpective View.*

SWANWICK-HALL is the property of Mrs. Morewood, of Alfreton-hall, and is ſituate about a mile from the latter. It is an elegant old building and moſt pleaſantly ſituate, but as it is not ſo modern as Alfreton, Mrs. Morewood has rented it to Mr. Clarke, a gentleman of the law, who at preſent reſides there, and occupies herſelf the beautiful hall at the above place. Swanwick has immediately in front, the elegant ſeat of Hugh Wood, eſq. on the right, a common, and to the left a moſt luxuriant country. The neighbourhood of this place, and particularly between it and Alfreton, abounds with the moſt excellent coal; indeed it may be ſaid to be one maſs of it. There are ſeveral mines worked on it, and one with a fire engine. Theſe are all the property of Mrs. Morewood, and yield a large income. There is but one thing wanting to render this eſtate aſtoniſhingly productive, which is water carriage for the coal. Without this, ſuch works muſt in ſome meaſure languiſh; however, the flouriſhing town of Alfreton

lying ſo near affords a conſtant market. The works, and the hill which they are on, do not add greatly to the beauty of the back view from Alfreton-hall, as the conſtant ſmoke of the engine, with the black earth, mark the diſtance through a long avenue of trees; but as Mrs. Morewood propoſes to expend a large ſum in decorating Alfreton, ſhe will no doubt remove this diſagreeable effect by placing ſomething between to, hide the offenſive object.

In our Magazine for October 1792, a view of Alfreton-hall was given.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE MANNERS OF THE ENGLISH.

[By Madame ROLAND.—From her 'Works,' juſt publiſhed.]

The Talents and Misfortunes of the celebrated Madame Roland, *are already well known to the Public, by her* 'Appeal to Poſterity,' *publiſhed ſome Years ago. She was one of the Victims of* Robeſpierre's *Tyranny, or rather of that Tyranny which devoted almoſt all the original Promoters of Republicaniſm in* France *to that Deſtruction, which the Friends of Monarchy could not have inflicted, and which has made ſome Perſons reflect upon it as* Retributive Juſtice. *Be this as it may, there can be no Diſpute as to the Talents of this Lady, which were worthy of a better Cauſe and better Times. Her Works, juſt publiſhed, conſiſt of a Number of Eſſays on various Subjects; and a* Trip to England, *in* 1784, *from which we have ſelected the following Obſervations, which, independent of the Pleaſure they may otherwiſe afford, will not be the leſs acceptable from the favourable View they exhibit of our national Manners, drawn by an accurate, obſerving, and well cultivated Mind.*

THE ROAD FROM DOVER.

THE houſes of the villages, ſays our author, built either of brick or wood, announce neatneſs and comfort; the ſmalleſt garden appears cultivated with aſſiduity by its peaceable poſſeſſor; here the agreeable is always blended with the uſeful, and ſeems to form but one with it; there is not a plant that is unaccompanied with a flower; every cabbage has its roſe-tree, and all is laid out in this taſte. The roads, kept in good order, are not as wide as ſeveral of our highways; but they are lined with hedges neatly clipped and trimmed; and in the places leſs eaſy to paſs, paths have been made, and ſometimes raiſed like pavement, for the convenience of people on foot. It is evident that man, whatever he may be, is here reckoned ſomething, and that a handful of rich does not conſtitute the nation. The gardens of the country ſeats, which overlook the high-roads, are terminated in ſlopes planted with ſhrubs and flowers in the greateſt variety, which might be ſaid to be there only for the ſatisfaction of the traveller. Theſe quickſet hedges, or ſmall wooden fences, neatly made, are the ſole protection of the fields; but a man who ſhould break through theſe three feet hedges, would be as ſeverely puniſhed as he who, with us, ſhould ſcale a wall twelve feet high; and in a country where the laws keep people in awe, much more than puniſhments check them, property is reſpected. He who poſſeſſes, quietly enjoys eſtates, the ſight of which is forbidden to no one; it is neceſſary only to open our eyes on theſe beautiful fields, to judge of the nature and influence of the government, and to ſay, in ſpite of our agreeable fellows, *happy England!*

PLANTS—BURYING GROUNDS.

TILL now I have not remarked any difference between the plants and trees

of this country and thoſe of ours; the climates are no doubt too ſimilar to afford a variety that can ſtrike the eye at firſt ſight; but the vegetation is vigorous, and this is the fineſt period (July) of its diſplay. Hops are here much cultivated; the plant is ſupported by high poles, round which it aſcends; at ſome diſtance the hop-grounds might be taken for vineyards. In our walk, and on the road, we ſaw burying-places, the arrangement of which does not diſparage their neatneſs. The rich erect monuments or tablets, in marble or ſtone, or only a flat ſlab, buried in the ground by one of its ends, and bearing a ſimple inſcription. The poor, who have not the means of erecting any, preſerve the earth which covers the body of the deceaſed, in the form of a ſarcophagus. The turf is taken off in ſquares in order to dig a ditch; the grave is covered over with this turf carefully arranged, it is then encircled with naked branches of pliable wood; the earth confined by all theſe hoops adheres together; its turf takes root again, and this verdant carpet covers the modeſt grave, which keeps its form for a long time.

THEATRES—THIEVES, &c.

OUR day was concluded by going to the little theatre in the Haymarket. It anſwers exactly to our *Comedie Italienne*; here are performed comic operas and little pieces. The muſic pleaſed me; it is ſimple and harmonious. Morals are very far from being reſpected at the theatre; great liberties are taken there in the dialogue, and even in the action; never with us, are ſeen given on the ſtage, kiſſes ſo laſcivious as thoſe which are repreſented at the Haymarket. I hear that the opera and the great theatres are not more refined; but it muſt be obſerved, that people of a certain rank very ſeldom frequent public places, and go there only when the beſt pieces are performed; there are ſome women who paſs ſix months in town, without viſiting them, which I know particularly of lady Egremont, married to count Bruhl, her ſecond huſband, and well known under the name of *lady Senſible*, in the periodical publications of madame de Beaumont, who brought her up. However, all the public places, and there are a great many, are always very full; there is ſuch a crowd, and ſo much luxury, in ſuch a brilliant capital as London, that there muſt be a great many indolent people; but we muſt not judge of the morals of *the nation* by the ſcum of this crowd. There are neither guards nor muſkets at the entrance of the public places, nor in the inſide, and there is not any buſtle and confuſion as is ſeen in ours; the audience all out *encore* as we cry *bis*, and they frequently make the actors ſing over again the ſongs that pleaſe. As people in London dine very late, commonly at four o'clock (and at ſix among the great) the public places hardly begin till between ſix and ſeven at ſooneſt, and are not over till late in the night; we came out of the Haymarket theatre at eleven o'clock, and left the afterpiece juſt begun.—A perſon muſt take care of his pockets, and look about him in the evening, when he happens to be in the ſtreets. In London there are a great many robbers; they aſſemble together to a certain number, and even ſtop carriages; the never aſſaſſinate, unleſs in caſe of an obſtinate reſiſtance, as happened three days ago, near the Opera-houſe, to a muſician, about midnight; he attempted to defend himſelf againſt ſeveral, and he was killed; if, however, a paſſenger can eſcape from their clutches by calling ſtoutly for the *watchman*, they are frightened, and he thus gets rid of them.

The *watchmen* are men, ſometimes old ſoldiers, ſet to guard the ſtreets of London; there are ſo many aſſigned to each pariſh; they walk about with a rattle, a lanthern, a long white pole, and call the hours as they ſtrike: they have places of rendezvous, and ſmall watch-boxes in ſeveral parts. Perſons in eaſy circumſtances, who leave town

in the ſummer, carry with them their plate, and what they have moſt valuable, or ſend it to their banker's; on their return they expect to find their houſe robbed; frequently travellers take the precaution to carry what is called the *robber's purſe*, that which is meant to be given them in caſe of being attacked. A great talk has been made about taking methods to put a ſtop to theſe frequent robberies; but ſome oppoſition has always been ſtarted. It is here nearly as it was in Lacedemonia: to the vigilance of every individual is left the care of avoiding theſe daily little loſſes; beſides, it would be apprehended that every well-armed guard, every means of police or of rigour at firſt eſtabliſhed for the ſafety of the citizens, would ſhortly become an inſtrument of oppreſſion and tyranny. In this point of view, it is perhaps the extreme of wiſdom not to perſiſt in annihilating the abuſe. In the town there are quarters well known, where the thieves aſſemble and hold their conſultations. However, they are hung, without mercy, when they are caught in the fact, or the crime is evidently proved; the mere depoſition of a perſon robbed would not be ſufficient, for here neither the liberty nor the life of men is ſported with; it is neceſſary to prove; the judges examine the proofs, and the law alone pronounces the penalty. Scarcely a month paſſes without an execution of thieves taking place, by ten or twelve at a time, more or leſs *.

Sunday.

Here Sunday is rigidly obſerved, the ſhops, the public places are ſhut, and games of all ſorts are prohibited; in the morning, people go to church, in the evening, they take a walk: it muſt not be imagined, however, that the crowd is as great at the one as at the other; the inhabitants walk ſtill more than they pray. We entered a church during divine ſervice, at which were preſent a dozen women; two prieſts clad in a white robe, in the ſhape of a Roman rocket, where one on each ſide of the altar, ſtanding up, holding a book of the ſcriptures, from which they read alternately in a grave and emphatic tone, the Lord's prayer in Engliſh, other prayers † taken from the ſcripture, and engraven on large braſs plates, placed above the altar as a picture, conſtituted the ſole decoration. Loaves were diſtributed to the poor at the door of the church, on ſtone tables arranged for this purpoſe.

Children—Women.

The race is vigorous; the children are charming with their fairneſs, their open boſom, their head bare, ornamented with fine hair in natural curls, falling careleſsly on their neck, which powder has never ſoiled. The women, who are well educated, have a maiden and affecting look; their fair, but rather pale complexion, a ſoft and melancholy look, inſpire an intereſt very different from the ſenſations excited by our ſmart figures and ſprightly air; theſe entice, the others ſoften; a man would be tempted to amuſe himſelf with the one, and to love the other. The women above the middle claſs are very few in number at this walk [St. James' park] they are diſtinguiſhed by footmen, and by their gowns being longer and always trailing.

Queen's Palace—The Queen.

The queen's palace offered us beauties of a very different kind

* Small miſtakes, in point of fact, are incident to all ſtrangers. Executions, however, were more frequent at the time our authoreſs was in London, than ſince the colonization of Botany Bay. None but very hardened or daring offenders ſuffer the puniſhment of death.—Editor of the Univerſal Magazine.

† The lively French are not much acquainted with the religious inſtitutions they have ſo long affected to deſpiſe. The creed and the ten commandments are here called *prayers*.

[from Weſtminſter-abbey] without, it beſpeaks the greateſt ſimplicity; it is a remark which I ſhould frequently have occaſion to repeat, that the public buildings here are conſtructed with a magnificence which is abſolutely confined to them; all that belongs to the prince falls far ſhort of this grandeur, and would appear to us nothing more than a large and modeſt hotel of a private perſon.

The library of the queen's palace aſtoniſhed us from its immenſe ſize; it occupies ſome vaſt rooms, and a long gallery terminated by a pavilion in the form of a dome, of the moſt agreeable effect; the fineſt editions, the ſcarceſt books in different languages, ancient and modern, render it doubly valuable. It is in this palace or at Windſor, that the queen, entirely employed in her family, paſſes her life, which might, in ſome reſpects, be compared to that of the princeſſes of the heroic times of which Homer makes mention.

The queen has not a handſome face, but ſhe has the looks of a ſenſible woman, and is ſo in reality; ſhe is generally eſteemed and loved. She ſees little company, diſplays her dignity only on occaſions of ceremony, and gives no other entertainments than two balls a year, on the anniverſary of the king's birth and her own. Theſe balls finiſh at midnight: ſome minuets are danced, and a few country dances; in other reſpects no ſupper, no ſhow, no expence.

CLUBS, &c. WOMEN—CHILDREN.

IN general, the women in England employ themſelves a great deal about their children, and lead a very domeſtic life. The two ſexes here live much more aſunder than in France; by this, morals are improved, and the happineſs of families is more ſecured*. The men form among themſelves what are called *Clubs*. There are ſome of Lords, ſome of porters, ſome of men of ſcience, and ſome of lawyers; the Royal Society have their club, and ſo on. When the men have diſpatched their private buſineſs, they repair to the club, there they read the public papers; firſt they converſe on politics; this is the ſubject of moſt general intereſt, the affairs of the ſtate being alſo thoſe of every one; they then talk over matters which more particularly concern the perſons who compoſe the club. The women therefore remain moſt commonly alone; they viſit each other, play little, take a walk, and are not diverted from the management of their family; the houſe and the children are in their department; to theſe they confine themſelves. The boys are ſent to the public ſchools, and to the univerſity; the girls ſcarcely quit their mother, and are brought out but very late into company. Till the age of fifteen or eighteen, they continue with their hair out of powder, falling in natural ringlets, and covered with a plain hat. They wear flat-heeled ſhoes, and generally a white dreſs; they pay no viſits, and do not make their appearance on ceremonious occaſions. It is during theſe years of retreat that they are formed under the eye of a mother, entirely devoted to the care of inſtructing them in things within their ſphere, and in ſuch agreeable accompliſhments as may be added. The women being of a ſedate turn, they read a good deal; they are not in want of information, and yet make no diſplay of it; for they are not ſpoiled by the vain encomiums of a crowd of idlers, and every thing foſters in them ſerious and prudent inclinations.

Freedom and cleanlineſs are the two laws of their early age; the children are waſhed, every day, from head to foot; they are ſuffered to do whatever they pleaſe that does not hurt others;

* It were to be wiſhed this opinion could be confirmed by facts. It is, we fear, a good-natured ſpeculation that has ſeldom been realized. There are, indeed, in this work, ſeveral opinions of which we can only ſay, we wiſh they were literally true. Theſe need not be pointed out to the intelligent reader.

we ſhould be quite aſtoniſhed to ſee at the table of a duke his children, eight or ten years old, puſh their plate forward on the table, put their elbows on it and lean their head on their hand, in order to reſt themſelves, or otherwiſe. No attention is paid to theſe trifles; it is well known that, at a future period, the child will remark that no one does thus, and will correct himſelf from a wiſh to do well. There reſults from this method, taken in the groſs, that the children are before their parents what they are in reality; they do not feel themſelves reſtricted by their preſence, and their parents on that account know them the better. Hence alſo reſults that the children have a certain ſomething free, eaſy, and bold in their motions and in their countenance, which is imprinted for ever, and is happily blended with the pride of a republican and the independence of a man. The children of the great are not much urged toward the ſciences; but pains are taken to inſtruct them in the laws of their country, to underſtand their language correctly, to inſpire them with the ſocial virtues, to make them men, patriots, and even heroes. The people are in general enlightened. There are ſchools well kept, where the mother-tongue and French are taught, and notions given of the moſt important things; even the women know their language very well by principle, and ſpeak and write it correctly.

The energy of this people is very ſingularly manifeſted in ſome circumſtances; if a thief happens to be caught in the fact, a mob collects around him, and ſeizes hold of him; he who has moſt warmth, or facility of expreſſion, or is better acquainted with the particulars, ſteps forward and ſtates what has juſt happened; the votes are ſucceſſively taken, and the majority of theſe determine the treatment that the malefactor is to be made to ſuffer: in general he is roughly handled, he is placed under a pump and copiouſly drenched with water, or ducked in a pond, and afterward pelted with mud, every one is eager to gives his blow; ſometimes he is left either dead or very nearly ſo. There are in London, old harridans who make a trade of kidnapping little girls, in order to ſell them to houſes of ill fame: the people break out into a rage, at the ſight of women whom they ſuppoſe ſuch, and do juſtice on them with incredible animoſity. What a diverſified ſpectacle is the manners of a city, containing ſo much wealth, ſo much luxury, where reign laws ſo wiſe, paſſions ſo warm, ſo many ſources of crimes and of virtues!

Ranelagh.

We concluded this day by going to Ranelagh: we went there before nine o'clock, in order to be able to examine the gardens: the company does not crowd thither till between eleven o'clock and midnight: every one retires about three. The gardens of Ranelagh, although agreeable, are inſignificant, and do not conſtitute the eſſential part of this charming place, the principal building of which is a rotunda of an elegant form, and ornamented in the beſt manner. The muſic animates in a ſingular degree the concourſe of a conſiderable number of perſons: it is entirely in the Italian ſtyle, although the words of the air are Engliſh. The women go there dreſſed; they in general take each other by the arm, and walk in this manner, ſeveral together, without any gentleman. Every thing there breathes the air of liberty, the *ton* of decorum, and of the greateſt tranquillity: no noiſe, no crowd, no confuſion: it is the ſame in all the places of public aſſemblies, even among the populace, and in the markets. The people every where diſplay a prudent character; they take their enjoyments quietly, and with voluptuouſneſs: warmth, energy, and paſſion, are manifeſted only in elections, or againſt acts of injuſtice.

KEW PALACE AND GARDENS.

IT was at Kew, a country-ſeat belonging to the king, that we ſtopt with the greateſt ſatisfaction. The buildings are nothing: ſimple and neat, they are like the common houſes of individuals in eaſy circumſtances, and do not deſerve to be viſited. The gardens, ſpacious, and kept in admirable order, in the Engliſh ſtyle, are the moſt intereſting that I have ever ſeen; the moſt ſkilful art cannot be better diſguiſed; every thing breathes nature and freedom; every thing is grand, noble and graceful. The lawns extend on all ſides their ſoft and elaſtic carpets: vigorous trees ſhoot up and cover them, here and there, without affecting their beauty. The walks, ſeldom in a ſtraight line, perfectly inſulate the viſitor from all that ſurrounds them. In every one of theſe he thinks he is in a place favoured by the gods, and unknown to the reſt of the world: they are formed, on all ſides, of a great variety of trees, to the depth of five or ſix feet on the lines deſcribed by the alley: the leaſt lofty of them are the neareſt the border, which is terminated by ſhrubs intermixed with flowers; the fir and the *acacia*, the oak and the lime, the holly and the tulip-tree, the aſh and the cypreſs interweave their branches: while the plane-tree and the pine rear their head to the moſt remote row, the little ſhrub treſoil, and the dogwood flower by the ſide of the roſe-tree, and look down on the herbaceous plants which terminate the border, always a little more elevated than the middle of the alley: the latter is rounded in the middle, with drains on each ſide for carrying off the waters under the borders: it is made with gravel rolled and crowned, ſo that the path is ſmooth and firm, and fit for walking on in all weathers, without dirt or duſt. Theſe beautiful walks, which croſs each other in a hundred different ways, lead to thoſe fine lawns where the ſight extends, ſettles, and ſeizes ſome charming viſtas, which are embelliſhed by canals of running water. How awkwardly and ridiculouſly have we imitated the Engliſh gardens, with our little diviſions, our ruins, which have the appearance of children's baby-houſes, our affectation of gloomineſs, that aſſemblage of contradictions and monuments only fit to be laughed at! I have ſeen the celebrated Ermenonville, with its little *tour de Gabrielle*; its temple, where ſix perſons could ſcarcely ſtand upright: its blackiſh waters, its proſpects, which often preſent melancholy and intereſting ſolitudes, without ever relieving the mind by ſmiling nature: and I wonder more than ever, that in that place, of an immenſe extent, all the edifices which it has been intended to repreſent, have been built on ſo ſmall a ſcale. Kew has its temples, but they do not ſhock improbability by their ſmallneſs: Kew has a pagoda, but it is a hundred and ninety feet high: this pagoda has five or ſix ſtories: it is from the upper one that muſt be ſeen the magnificent plains of the environs: the eye diſcovers the whole horizon as far as the ſight can extend, as far as Windſor, at the diſtance of ten or twelve leagues on one ſide, and ſo forth. The ſpectator ſees but one ſuperb garden, watered by the Thames, where the land never lies idle, and the ſmalleſt ſpace of which is not loſt. After having ſurveyed this fine picture, let him run through the details of it: he will not find there a miſerable houſe, where the ſtubble and the dirt, dung and indigence, are heaped up, and atteſt, as in the greater part of our villages, the ſtate of the people and the nature of the government under which they groan.

SHOPPING.

To run from ſhop to ſhop, may ſometimes be an amuſement to the idle; but it is not in London that it would be moſt gratifying. You have ſeen the handſomeſt articles before be-

fore you go in; the cloths or muſlins of the beſt taſte, of the fineſt effect, are diſplayed behind the glaſs windows; this is the choice of the warehouſe; attracted by this rich appearance, you enter, thinking to have to chooſe among numberleſs varieties; you have nothing more to admire; this rule is not without an exception, however; there are ſome houſes very well aſſorted, the ſhow of which is, on the contrary, inferior to that of the ſmall ſhops, and where eternal fancy can exerciſe itſelf at pleaſure; but the remark is very true in general, and as far as concerns myſelf, it is ſupported by ſome proofs. Civility, complaiſance, are the ſame among all the tradeſmen: and here, as at Paris, or Lyons, it is backward, in rooms, or warehouſes, that any goods whatever are ſhown or ſold.

Miscellaneous.

Living is much dearer in London than in Paris, and workmanſhip, conſequently is dearer alſo. The Engliſhman works with ardour for the little time that he appropriates to labour; but he takes his round of pleaſure, and is not at a little expence.

I have ſaid that, in the ſuburbs of London, were a great number of pretty taverns, or tea-houſes, ſurrounded by large gardens, very agreeably laid out, and kept in order, whither the people repair in crowds; it is alſo in theſe ſuburbs that are ſituate houſes of a very different kind, and far ſuperior to ours eſtabliſhed for the ſame end, boarding ſchools for young ladies. Many women take on themſelves the education of their daughters; but there are ſome alſo, who, not chooſing, or not being able, or perhaps not daring to undertake it, place their children in theſe houſes of public inſtruction. They are generally kept by perſons of diſtinguiſhed merit, of rigid morals, and of a well-eſtabliſhed reputation. They ſcarcely take more than ten or twelve young ladies: it is properly a family, whoſe common mother, the miſtreſs, can know the character of each individual, and direct the whole with advantage to each pupil in particular.

The price of the firſt boarding-ſchools, in general, is a hundred guineas a year, for board and lodging, without reckoning any maſter, the number and the choice of whom are left to the relations. The reſerve and modeſt ſilence, which ſo well become the ſex, are here particularly inculcated in the young girls of family, who commonly bear the marks of it all their life, and who, notwithſtanding a great fund of information, never betray that tone of confidence, that decided or giddy air which diſfigure every grace.

In this country, the men do not behave to the women with that little gallantry ſo common with us, which is reduced to ſome grimaces and inſipid compliments: they ſhow them attentions which proceed from reſpect, and are connected with the high idea they form of the virtues that they ought to poſſeſs, with the affection that they deſerve, and with the regard that is their due. The impreſſion of theſe ſentiments is alſo to be found among the people, and in the moſt common cuſtoms. A woman is reſpected in the ſtreets by a man of the loweſt claſs, who would take care not to run againſt her, but on the contrary, would make way for her. Twice, on foot, taking hold of a perſon's arm, and being, by chance, on the outſide of the pavement, it was remarked with ſcandal, and it was hinted to him who accompanied me: the ſame thing happened on the river, in a boat in which I had left the beſt place to an old man of conſequence. Theſe facts are trifling; but it is a ſhade which forms a connexion in the picture of manners.

THE PROCESS OF FELTING.

[FELTING is the method of working up wool or hair into a kind of cloth or ſtuff, without either ſpinning or weaving it. In this country, felting is little practiſed, except in hat-making; and as nine-tenths of thoſe who are employed in the manufacturing of hats know nothing of the principles on which they proceed, the following obſervations on the mechaniſm of felting muſt to them be both agreeable and uſeful. They are by M. Monge, and taken from the *Annales de Chemie.*]

If we examine, in a microſcope, human hair, wool, the hair of a rabbit, hare, beaver, &c. however great the magnifying power of the inſtrument may be, the ſurface of each hair appears perfectly ſmooth and even: or at leaſt, if any inequalities are to be perceived, they ſeem rather to ariſe from ſome difference in the colour and tranſparency of particular parts of thoſe ſubſtances than from the irregularity of their ſurfaces: for their image, when viewed by a ſolar microſcope, is terminated by even lines, without any roughneſs. The ſurface of theſe objects, however, is by no means ſmooth; on the contrary, it appears to be formed either of *lamellæ*, which cover each other from the root to the point, pretty much in the ſame manner as the ſcales of a fiſh cover the animal from the head to the tail; or, more probably, of zones placed one over the other, like what is obſerved in the ſtructure of horns: to this conformation it is, that the ſubſtances here treated of owe their diſpoſition to what is called felting.

If, with one hand, we take hold of a hair by the root, and draw it between two fingers of the other, from the root toward the point, we are hardly ſenſible of any friction or reſiſtance, nor can we diſtinguiſh any ſound; but if, on the contrary, we hold the hair at the point, and draw it between the fingers, from the point toward the root, we are ſenſible of a reſiſtance which did not exiſt in the former caſe; a ſort of tremulous motion is likewiſe produced, which is not only perceptible to the touch, but may alſo be diſtinguiſhed by the ear.

It is evident, therefore, that the texture of the ſurface of a hair is not the ſame from the root toward the point, as from the point toward the root; and that a hair, when graſped, muſt offer more reſiſtance in ſliding or moving progreſſively toward the point than toward the root: i. e. in moving with its point foremoſt.

If a hair, after being taken hold of by the forefinger and thumb, be rubbed by them, in the longitudinal direction of the hair, a progreſſive motion takes place, and this motion is always toward the root. This effect does not at all depend on the nature of the ſkin of the fingers or its texture; for if the hair be turned, ſo that the point is placed where the root was, the movement then becomes contrary to what it was before; that is to ſay, it is always directed toward the root.

What is obſerved, in the above inſtance, is entirely analogous to what happens when country children, by way of ſport, introduce an ear of rye or barley between the wriſt and the ſhirt, the points of the beards of which are directed outward. By the various motions of the arm, this ear, ſometimes catching againſt the ſhirt, ſometimes againſt the ſkin, takes a progreſſive motion backward, and ſoon gets up to the arm-pit. It is very clear that this effect is produced by the beards of the ear, and indeed chiefly by the aſperities upon thoſe beards: which being all directed toward the point, do not permit the ear to move in any other direction than toward that part to which it was united to the ſtalk. There is no doubt that it is the ſame with reſpect to hair; and that its ſurface is beſet with aſperities, which, being laid one upon the other, and turned toward

the points, permit no motion but toward the root.

A tight knot, made in the middle of a hair, is very difficult to untie by the uſual means, on account of the extreme thinneſs of the hair: but if we place the hair in the bend of the hand, ſo that the knot is in a line with the little finger, and, after graſping the hair by cloſing the hand, we ſtrike the fiſt ſeveral times againſt the knee, the aſperities of one end of the hair being now in a contrary direction to thoſe of the other, each of the ends recedes a little, one of them one way, the other the contrary way; the knot is thereby opened, and, by introducing a pin into the eye which is formed, it is very eaſy to finiſh untying it.

Theſe obſervations, which it would be uſeleſs to multiply, relate to long hair, that having been taken as an example; but they apply with equal propriety to wool, furs, and in general to every kind of animal hair. The ſurface of all theſe is therefore to be conſidered as compoſed of hard *lamellæ*, placed one upon another, like tiles, from the root to the point: which *lamellæ* allow the progreſſive motion of the hair toward the root, but prevent a ſimilar motion toward the point.

From what has been ſaid, it is eaſy to explain why the contact of woollen ſtuffs is rough to the ſkin, while that of linen or cotton cloths is ſmooth: the reaſon is, the aſperities upon the ſurface of the fibres of the wool (notwithſtanding the flexibility of each particular fibre) by fixing themſelves in the ſkin, produce a diſagreeable ſenſation, at leaſt till we are accuſtomed to it: whereas the ſurface of the fibres of hemp or flax, of which linen is made, being perfectly ſmooth, do not cauſe any ſuch ſenſation. It is alſo evident, that the injury ariſing to wounds or ſores, from the application of wool, does not proceed from any chemical property, but is occaſioned ſolely by the conformation of the ſurface of the fibres; the aſperities of which attach themſelves to the raw and expoſed fleſh, which they ſtimulate and irritate to ſuch a degree as to produce inflammation.

This conformation is the principal cauſe of that diſpoſition to what is called felting, which the hair of all animals in general poſſeſſes.

The hatter, by ſtriking the wool with the ſtring of his bow, ſeparates the hairs from each other, and cauſes them to ſpring up in the air; the hairs fall again on the table, in all poſſible directions, ſo as to form a layer of a certain thickneſs, and the workman covers them with a cloth, which he preſſes with his hands, moving them backward and forward in various directions. This preſſure brings the hairs againſt each other, and multiplies their points of contact: the agitation of them gives to each hair a progreſſive motion toward the root; by means of this motion the hairs are twiſted together, and the *lamellæ* of each hair, by fixing themſelves to thoſe of other hairs which happen to be directed the contrary way, keep the whole in that compact ſtate which the preſſure makes it acquire. In proportion as the maſs becomes compact, the preſſure of the hands ſhould be increaſed: not only to make it more cloſe, but alſo to keep up the progreſſive motion and twiſting of the hairs, which then takes place with greater difficulty: but throughout the whole of this operation, the hairs fix themſelves only to each other, and not to the cloth with which they are covered, the fibres of which, as we have already ſaid, are ſmooth, and have not that diſpoſition to felting which we have deſcribed above.

It may not be amiſs here to explain why that hair which is intended for making hats is always cut off with a ſharp inſtrument (although that cannot be done without loſing a part of its length) and not plucked out by the roots, as might be done after ſoftening the ſkin; the reaſon is, the bulb of the hair, which in the latter caſe

would come out with it, would render that end which was fixed in the ſkin thick and obtuſe; and it would conſequently be leſs diſpoſed to introduce itſelf among the contiguous hairs, and to contribute by its progreſſive motion to the contexture of the maſs.

The above deſcribed conformation of the ſurface of hairs and wool is not the only cauſe which produces their diſpoſition to felting. It is not ſufficient that every hair poſſeſſes the forementioned tendency to move progreſſively toward the root, and that the inclined *lamellæ*, by hooking themſelves to each other, preſerve the maſs in that ſtate to which compreſſion has brought it; but it is alſo neceſſary that the hairs ſhould not be ſtraight, like needles: if they were ſo, preſſing and rubbing them together would merely cauſe them to continue their progreſſive motion, without changing their direction; and the effect of thoſe operations would only be to make them move from the centre of the maſs, without producing any compactneſs in it. Every hair muſt therefore be twiſted or curled in ſuch a manner that the extremity, which is toward the root, may be diſpoſed to change its direction perpetually, to twiſt itſelf about other hairs, and to incline toward itſelf again, in caſe it ſhould be determined thereto by any change in the poſition of the reſt of its length. It is becauſe wool has naturally this crooked form that it is ſo proper for felting, and that it may be made uſe of for that purpoſe without undergoing any previous preparation.

But the hairs of the beaver, the rabbit, the hare, &c. being naturally ſtraight, cannot be employed alone in felting till they have undergone a preliminary operation; which conſiſts in rubbing, or combing them, before they are taken off the ſkin, with a bruſh dipped in a ſolution of mercury in aquafortis. This liquor, acting only on one ſide of the ſubſtance of the hairs, changes their direction from a right line, and gives them that diſpoſition to felting, which wool naturally poſſeſſes.

When the hairs are not intended to enter into the body of the maſs, but are only to be employed in making a ſort of external coating, ſuch as is ſometimes given to the outer ſurface of hats, the operation juſt mentioned need not be performed: but the felt on which they are to be fixed being finiſhed, the hair is uniformly ſpread upon the ſurface to which the coating is to be applied; and being covered with a cloth, it is preſſed with the hands, and agitated for a certain time. By theſe means, the hairs introduce themſelves, by the root, a certain depth into the felt, and are there fixed by their *lamellæ* in ſuch a manner as not to be eaſily extracted. A particular direction is afterward given to them by means of a bruſh, and they are made to keep this direction by having a hot iron paſſed over them. If the agitation were continued for a longer time, theſe hairs, not having their ſtraightneſs deſtroyed by the operation before deſcribed, would paſs entirely through the felt, going out at the oppoſite ſurface, as each hair follows exactly the direction it acquired at the beginning.

It is owing to the very ſame circumſtances which make wool and hair capable of felting, that woollen cloth is thickened by fulling. The aſperities with which the ſurface of wool is every where ſurrounded, and the diſpoſition which it has to aſſume a progreſſive motion toward the root, render the ſpinning of wool, and making it into cloth, difficult operations. In order to ſpin wool, and afterward to weave it, we are obliged to cover its fibres with a coating of oil, which, filling the cavities, renders the aſperities leſs ſenſible; in the ſame way as oil, when rubbed over the ſurface of a very fine file, renders it ſtill leſs rough. When the piece of cloth is finiſhed, it muſt be cleanſed from this oil; which beſide giving it a diſagreeable ſmell, would cauſe it to ſoil

whatever it came in contact with, and would prevent its taking the colour, which is intended to be given to it by the dyer. To deprive it of the oil, it is carried to the fulling mill, where it is beat with hammers in a trough full of water, in which ſome clay has been mixed; the clay combines with the oil, which it ſeparates from the cloth, and both together are waſhed away by the freſh water, which is brought to it by the machine; thus, after a certain time, the oil is waſhed entirely out of the cloth.

But the ſcouring of the cloth is not the only object in fulling it; the alternate preſſure given by the mallets to the piece of cloth, occaſions, eſpecially when the ſcouring is pretty far advanced, an effect analogous to that which is produced upon hats by the hand of the hatter; the fibres of wool which compoſe one of the threads, whether of the warp or the wooff, aſſume a progreſſive movement, introduce themſelves among thoſe of the threads neareſt to them, then into thoſe which follow; and thus, by degrees, all the threads, both of the warp and the wooff, become felted together. The cloth, after having, by the above means, become ſhortened in all its dimenſions, partakes both of the nature of cloth and of that of felt; it may be cut without being ſubject to ravel, and, on that account, we are not obliged to hem the edges of the pieces of which clothes are made. Laſtly, As the threads of the warp and thoſe of the wooff are no longer ſo diſtinct and ſeparated from each other, the cloth, which has acquired a greater degree of thickneſs, forms a warmer clothing. Knit worſted alſo is, by fulling, rendered leſs apt to run, in caſe a ſtitch ſhould drop in it.

THE BRITISH MUSE.

THE FROWN.

AH! Delia, why clothe that ſweet face in a frown,
To teaſe, and diſquiet thy ſwain;
'Tis foreign I'm ſure from a heart like your own,
To fill any boſom with pain.

'Twas but yeſter-eve in the neighbouring grove,
You met my fond ſuit with a ſmile,
You nouriſh'd my hopes, and encourag'd my love,
As we paſs'd from the grove to the ſtile.

You bade me remember the day we firſt met,
And ne'er ſhall that day be forgot;
You told me I ne'er ſhould have cauſe for regret,
As we paſs'd from the ſtile to the cot.

And there as we parted you gave the fond kiſs,
And bade me ne'er leave you to roam;
I vow'd, and I promis'd, and ſweet was my bliſs,
As I paſs'd from the cot to my home.

This morning, ah why, is my all deſtroy'd?
And chang'd, my once fortunate lot?
But now, and my thoughts were on raptures employ'd,
As I came from my home to the cot.

Ah, Delia! beware, leſt a cruel return
Overburden the heart of thy ſlave,
And he, ſaddeſt leſſons of miſery learn,
And go from the cot to the grave.

Then trifle no longer with a boſom like mine,
Nor the raptures you cheriſh'd reprove;
Ah, tell me that frown is plac'd there by deſign,
To temper the tranſports of love.

JUVENIS.

THE MINSTREL.

NO more, ſad Minſtrel, ſtrike the penſive ſtring,
It vibrates not reſponſive to my heart;
Let feſtive joy its lively numbers bring,
And mirth its ſweeter harmony impart.

For now at length hath gentle Angeline,
Her freedom's boon conſented to reſign,
One ling'ring night alone remains between
This ſun and that, which will behold her mind.

Ah well, fond youth, the ſorrowing minſtrel cried,
Well may thy thoughts thro' bliſsful regions roam,
To humble peace and innocence allied,
Grief in thy boſom hath not found a home.

But now awhile ſuſpend the joyous theme,
Within thy breaſt let love awhile retire,
Nor one of falſehood's ſons the minſtrel deem,
Who thus unfolds the ſorrows of his lyre.

On Dwina's banks in cold Livonia's clime,
Liv'd the good father of my Leonore,
Her mother long had ſail'd the ſtream of time,
And ſteer'd her veſſel to a happier ſhore.

Long, long did Hubert, nobleſt of his race,
Lament the loſt copartner of his care,
Long did the tears and oft, each other chaſe,
But reaſon check'd the inroads of deſpair.

Much in this ſad misfortune did he owe,
To his lov'd child, the beauteous Leonore,
Who to contract the limits of his woe,
The anguiſh of her ſoul in ſilence bore.

Oh had I tongues to ſpeak the loudeſt praiſe,
Vain, vain were all my feeble voice could ſay,
For all that friendſhip, all that love can raiſe,
Would faint ideas of their worth convey.

Now time had chas'd the conſtant pang of grief,
And left a pleaſing ſorrow on the mind,
Yet tho' the ſmile of pleaſure brought relief,
Oft ſad regret would ſtart a tear behind.

In their abode, by pity's charm ſuſtain'd
Thro' fancy's range affliction ceas'd to roam,
The weary pilgrim there a ſhelter gain'd,
And the benighted traveller a home.

Each morn unſeen their winding way they took,
A down the lowly ſolitary vale,
Explor'd each humble ſpot, each ſecret nook,
Where haply they might hear the mourner's tale.

Hubert would ſpeak the wiſhes of his ſoul,
And Leonore would ſpread the plenteous fare,
Give the parch'd lip the thirſt abating bowl,
And the wide waſte of miſery repair.

Not far from Dwina's banks the ample lord
Of many a wide, and many a rich domain
I rul'd, nor thought ſtern fortune could afford,
Ought to moleſt the quiet of my reign.

But ſoon did Leonore my peace invade,
Tho' to diſturb was little her deſign,
Yet, yet I lov'd the tumult ſhe had made,
And burnt to call the fair diſturber mine.

I ſought her out in miſery's retreat,
O'erheard her ſoothe the anguiſh of the heart,
I ſaw her give the poor, the wretched meat,
Cloſe the deep wound, and lull the ſecret ſmart.

In theſe retreats acquaintance firſt began,
And time converted friendſhip into love,
Quick thro' our hearts the mutual ardour ran,
And ſoon allur'd us Hymen's bliſs to prove.

And now was fix'd the happy nuptial morn,
But ah! how vain our joys, our hopes how vain!
For ere we pluck the roſe, we feel the thorn,
And promis'd pleaſure only foſters pain.

Long Sigiſmund had felt for Leonore
The flame of love, but ſtill was ſcorn'd, diſdain'd;
For his ſtern heart too rought a veſtment wore,
To meet return from her, his preſence pain'd.

Impatient of repulſe, vindictive, proud
Was Sigiſmund, the author of my pain,
For him what Leonore denied, he vow'd
No other happier rival ſhould obtain.

Alas! too well diſcharg'd his cruel vow!
Too ſure his vengeance! ſcorning all controul!
The angry ſcowl that ſtamp'd his gloomy brow,
Too truly told the purpoſe of his ſoul.

How fair, how cheerful were the evening ſkies!
That ſmil'd in proſpect of a fairer morn,
Ah little thought I, ere the ſun ſhould riſe,
That ſorrow would outſtrip the twilight dawn.

While as we ſat within a ſecret bower,
On the bleſt morrow every thought beſtow'd,
Dark ſhades began to cloſe the evening hour,
And bade us homeward take the nearer road.

Reluctant we obey'd, and homeward ſteer'd
Our gentle courſe, ſtill willing to delay,
No foe ſuſpecting, we no danger fear'd,
And haſty night o'ertook us on our way.

But ere, alas! our ſheltering home we gain'd,
A cruel ruffian ruſh'd on Leonore,
And while my arms her trembling frame ſuſtain'd,
His deadly ſteel her beauteous boſom tore.

Beneath the ſhades of night the ruffian fled,
And ſtill he had my wiſh'd diſcovery ſhun'd,
But Leonore, while yet her boſom bled,
Falter'd the hated name of Sigiſmund.

No more, alas! ſave on my liſtening ear
When ſtruck the dying groans in accents low,
And I bereft of all I held moſt dear,
Hung o'er her mangled corpſe in ſpeechleſs woe.

O cruel taſk! the murder'd form to bear,
Of a lov'd daughter to a parent's view,
Yet this ſad taſk was mine, this mournful care,
And from my breaſt full many a ſigh it drew.

But ah! what tongue can tell of Hubert's woe,
When in my arms he view'd his lifeleſs child!
'Twas ſilent, ſad, no tear was ſeen to flow,
No groan was heard to break, 'twas fix'd and wild.

Tho' heavy grief no outward ſigns expreſs'd,
Yet keener were the inward pangs it gave,
Too ſoon its fury tore his aged breaſt,
Too ſoon it ſtretch'd him in his daughter's grave.

Oft have I heard the village mourner's groan,
His frequent ſigh, and ſeen the buſy part
Each took to hang the ſad ſepulchral ſtone,
With ſome poor tribute of his grateful heart.

And often would, while bending o'er the tomb,
(Where as the evening cloſ'd, I ſtole to weep)
Some wretch, like me, bewail his hapleſs doom,
Like me in tears his midnight vigils keep.

Grief in my yielding heart full empire found,
And there maintain'd its arbitrary reign,
And time, which oft will cloſe the deepeſt wound,
Seem'd not to leſſen, but increaſe my pain.

Unable to endure a longer ſtay,
I left my friends, my country, and my home,
And now, with grief companion of my way,
Thro' unknown climes, a ſorrowing minſtrel roam.

A joy I feel, which wretches only know,
Whene'er I ſtrike the melancholy ſtrain,
And if perchance a tear refuſe to flow,
There is a ſtring will make me weep again.

Then bid me not the mournful ſound ſuppreſs,
Since to my heart it miniſters relief,
May you and Angeline each bliſs poſſeſs,
But oh, indulge the wretched minſtrel's grief.

JUVENIS.

To a YOUNG MAN, attached to the Sports of the Field.

OH ſtay thy hand—thou haſt a power to kill
But none to bring forth life! impreſſive truth,
Sounding to wiſdom like a warning voice,
And teaching that our feebleneſs to work
The leaſt good thing, ſhould guard us tremblingly
From aught that looks like evil; leſt we wrench
From her retired ſeat the better ſoul,
The ſenſe which God hath lent us, which that God
Sees not polluted with a ſlumbering eye;
But vexes him that ſets his gift at nought
With awful darkneſs, and a fearful wandering!

Thou ſee'ſt athwart this grove of trembling trees,
Trembling and gliſtening with the morning light,
Thou ſee'ſt yon lavrock riſe! to the great ſun
He ſeems to haſten; ſave the burning orb
That lives above, nought but this little bird
Varies the mighty ſolitude of Heaven!
Art thou aſſur'd the Almighty doth not ſpeak
To that ſame little bird—that morning's glories
Are not diſcourſes of his watchful love
Gladd'ning this innocent creature? Could'ſt thou ſeek
To ſtop his ſong of gratulation, quench
His ſenſe of joy, and all thoſe living powers
That dance ſo cheerly in him? They ſerve heaven
Who love his works! and they moſt feel a God
Who hold each bodily ſenſe a holy thing,
Communicating meaſurably to all
The influxes of that eternal ſpirit
Whoſe countenance to man are day-light hues,
And ſky, and ſea, and foreſts, lakes, and hills

And lightenings, thunders, and prodigious ſtorms,
And ſuns, and all the company of worlds!

I would not kill one bird in wanton ſport,
I would not mingle jocund mirth with death,
For all the ſmoking board, the ſavoury feaſt
Can yield moſt exquiſite to pamper'd ſenſe!

Since nature wills that every living thing
Should gratify the purpoſes of man,
And wait his proud diſpoſal, let him prove,
E'en in this delegated function, prove,
A deep humility which fears to tread
Where the all-perfect, and unqueſtion'd God
Hath wrought ſtrange imperfection—perhaps to bend,
And by the influence of a holy ſadneſs,
To tame the o'erweening ſoul! not give a cauſe
For riotous dominion, and for power
Sweeping with mad career from off this world
Its fair inhabitants!
My friend, I knew
A man who liv'd in ſolitude: a dell,
A moſſy dell, green, woody, hung around
With various foreſt growth, was his abode.
And in the foreſt many a gleaming plot
Of tendereſt graſs, its iſland circlet ſpread!
This man did rear a hut, and lived and died
In that lone dell! He had no friend on earth,
Nor wanted one—For much he lov'd his God,
And much thoſe works which e'en the lonely man
May taſte abundantly! And he did think
So oft on life's great author, that at laſt
He worſhipp'd him in all things, and believ'd
His pooreſt creatures holy, and could ſee
'Religious meanings in the forms of nature,'
Dreaming he ſaw e'en in the paſſing bird,
The crawling worm, or ſerpent on the graſs,
An emanation of his Maker—ſo
That a new preſence ſtung him into thought
And made him kneel and weep!
Well! this poor man
Liv'd on the ſcanty fruits this little dell
Afforded. Never did a dying writhe,
Or dying gaſp, war with his ſenſe of good.
At laſt he died, and ſuch had been his life
That when he yielded up his animal frame
It only ſeem'd as if he went to ſleep
More quietly than ever!

A WINTER SKETCH.

FROM his urn now Aquarius his waters is pouring,
And the traces of autumn are all fled away;
Hark! the hollow-ton'd blaſt, at dread intervals roaring,
Seems to chant a ſad requiem o'er Nature's decay!

Late the eye gazed enraptur'd on vales, where with luſtre
Bright beaming fair Ceres ſo beauteouſly ſmil'd;
Where the deep-bluſhing fruit hung in many a cluſter,
Now far, far extends a waſte cheerleſs and wild.

The trees, in whoſe ſhades once the heart grew elater,
Have long caſt the honours on earth's naked breaſt,
On the ear no more vibrates the muſic of nature,
Save the chirping of winter's ſweet roſe-boſom'd gueſt.

But ſpring, round her brows a green chaplet entwining,
Ere long with wild flowrets ſhall tap'ſtry the grove;
And all the plum'd warbler's, their deſcants combining,
Shall welcome the ſeaſon of joyance and love.

LINES on the PORTRAIT of a LADY.

TENDER as the ſweets of ſpring
Wafted on the weſtern gale,
When the breeze with dewy wing
Wanders thro' the primroſe vale;

Tranquil as the huſh of night
To the hermit's holy dream;
While the moon with lovely light,
Quivers on the ripling ſtream;

Cheerful as the beams of morn,
Laughing on the mountain's ſide;
Spotleſs as the cygnet's form,
Heaving on the ſilver'd tide.

Who can paint this varied grace,
Charms that mock the mimic art?
Yet my Laura! theſe I trace,
With the pencil of the heart.

THE UNION.

At the Court at St. James's, the 5th day of Nov. 1800—Preſent the King's Moſt Excellent Majeſty in Council.

WHEREAS there was this day read at the Board a Report from the Lords of the Committee of the whole Council, dated the 4th of this inſt. in the words following, *viz* —

In purſuance of your majeſty's Order in Council, bearing date the 18th of Sept. laſt, directing a Committee of the whole Council to meet and ſettle the Royal Style and Titles appertaining to the Imperial Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and its Dependencies; and alſo the Enſigns Armorial, Flags, and Banners thereof, and all other matters of that nature which may become neceſſary in execution of the Acts paſſed by the Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland reſpectively, for the Union of the two Kingdoms: the Lords of the Committee have met and conſidered the Royal Style and Titles appertaining to the Imperial Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and have been attended by Garter Principal King of Arms, and by Richmond Herald, with divers Drafts relating to the Enſigns Armorial of the ſaid United Kingdom, and to the Flags and Banners thereof; and their Lordſhips do thereupon agree to report to your Majeſty as their opinion, That it may be proper, if your Majeſty ſhould ſo think fit, that your Majeſty ſhould, by your Royal Proclamation, to be iſſued on the Firſt day of January next, under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, appoint and declare that your Majeſty's Royal Style and Titles ſhall from thenceforth be accepted, taken and uſed, as the ſame are declared and ſet forth in manner and form following, that is to ſay—

In the Latin tongue by theſe words:

"*Georgius Tertius Dei Gratiâ Britanniarum Rex, Fidei Defenſor, et in Terrâ Eccleſiæ Anglicanæ et Hibernicæ Supremum Caput.*"

And in the Engliſh tongue by theſe words:

"George the Third, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and of the United Church of England and Ireland, on Earth, the Supreme Head."

And that the ſaid Royal Style and Titles ſo declared and ſet forth, ſhall be from thenceforth united and annexed for ever to the Imperial Crown of the ſaid United Kingdom and its dependencies.

And, with reſpect to the Enſigns Armorial of the ſaid United Kingdom, the Lords of the Committee do agree to lay before your Majeſty the annexed Draft marked *A.* propoſed for the bearing of Arms for the ſaid United Kingdom, in order to receive your Majeſty's pleaſure thereon, both as to what relates to your Majeſty's Armorial Bearings, and alſo to the Armorial Bearings of his Royal Highneſs the Prince of Wales, and the other branches of your Majeſty's Royal Family, with the ſeveral diſtinctions already aſſigned to them: and the Lords of the Committee do alſo agree to lay before your Majeſty the Drafts of two Badges marked *H.* in which the Roſe is conjoined with the Thiſtle and Shamrock, iſſuing from the ſame ſtalk, and alternated as is repreſented therein; together with Drafts of the ancient Creſt of Ireland and of the Badge of Ireland reſpectively, marked with the letters *F* and *G*; and alſo Drafts of other Badges marked with the letters *ED. EI.* in order to receive your Majeſty's pleaſure thereon.

As to the Great Seal of the ſaid United Kingdom, the Committee humbly offer that the ſame may remain as at preſent, with the alteration of your Majeſty's Arms as above propoſed, and this Inſcription:

"*Georgius Tertius Dei Gratiâ Britanniarum Rex, Fidei Defenſor, &c.*"

Unleſs it ſhould appear to the Committee neceſſary to ſubmit to your Majeſty any further opinion upon this point, after having conſidered the Draft of ſuch Seal, to be prepared by your Majeſty's Chief Engraver of Seals under an Order from your Majeſty in Council.

And the Committee are further of opinion, That in all the Seals of Office, Stamps, Coins, or Inſtruments where your Majeſty's preſent Arms are now uſed, the Enſigns Armorial of the United Kingdom ſhould in future be uſed.

With reſpect to the Privy Council Seal, their Lordſhips are of opinion, That the Roſe ſhould be conjoined with the Thiſtle and Shamrock in the ſame manner as in the Draft of the Badges above referred to, marked *H.*

The Committee are further of opinion,

That the Union Flag ſhould be altered according to the Draft thereof, marked *C*, which is herewith humbly ſubmitted to your Majeſty, and in which the Croſs of St. George is conjoined with the Croſſes of St. Andrew and St. Patrick.

That the Standard be the Arms of the United Kingdom, according to the Draft marked *B*.

And the Lords of the Committee are of opinion, That the ſeveral Ornaments of your Majeſty's State in Parliament and elſewhere ſhould be the Badges above referred to; and that, where ſuch Ornaments are neceſſary to be uſed, they be properly mixed according to the preſent practice, with reſpect to the ſaid ornaments, ſettled at the time of the Union with Scotland.

That the Badges, &c. for the Kings of Arms be according to the Draft marked *K*, and the Collars according to the Draft marked *L*.

And the Committee are further humbly of opinion, That the Maſter of your Majeſty's Mint ſhould prepare Drafts of Gold and Silver Medals commemorating the Union of Great Britain and Ireland, and ſhould lay the ſame before your Majeſty in Council, together with the expence attending the ſame.

And their Lordſhips alſo agree to lay before your Majeſty the Draft of a Proclamation, which has been prepared by your Majeſty's Attorney General, relating to the firſt Members of the Parliament of the United Kingdom, on the part of Great Britain, and alſo the draft of an Order to be made by your Majeſty in Council, directing the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to iſſue a Proclamation under the Great Seal of that Kingdom, for notifying and appointing Monday the Firſt day of December next, at the hour of ten in the forenoon, for the meeting in the uſual place of meeting of the Houſe of Commons of Ireland of the ſeveral Members now ſerving in the Houſe of Commons of Ireland, for the places mentioned in the Act paſſed by the Parliament of Ireland, to draw or otherwiſe aſcertain the names of the Members to ſerve in the firſt Parliament of the United Kingdom.

And the Committee are further of opinion, That it may be proper for your Majeſty, on the Firſt day of January next, to declare the Members of your Majeſty's moſt Honourable Privy Council; and to nominate and appoint a Standing Committee of the ſaid Council to be a Committee for Intelligence for the opening and conſidering all advices, as well foreign as domeſtic, and to meet where, and as often as they ſhall ſee fit; and alſo to appoint a Committee for all matters relating to Trade and Foreign Plantations; and a Committee to take into conſideration the ſtate of the Coins of this Kingdom, and the preſent eſtabliſhment and conſtitution of your Majeſty's Mint.

And, laſtly, the Lords of the Committee ſubmit as their opinion, That it may be expedient, that your Majeſty's pleaſure, touching your Majeſty's royal Style and Titles, and touching the Enſigns Armorial, and the Flags and Banners of the United Kingdom, ſhould forthwith be ſignified by your Majeſty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department to his Royal Highneſs the Duke of York, Captain General of all and ſingular your Majeſty's Land Forces; to the Commiſſioners for executing the office of Lord High Treaſurer of Great Britain; the Commiſſioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral of Great Britain; the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports; the Maſter General and the reſt of the Principal Officers of the Ordnance; to your Majeſty's Secretary at War; and alſo to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland; and to the intent that the ſame may be uſed on and after the Firſt day of January next enſuing; and that on that day the ſaid Flags and Banners ſhould be hoiſted and diſplayed on all your Majeſty's Forts and Caſtles within the United Kingdom, and the Iſlands of Guernſey, Jerſey, Alderney, Sark, and Man; and alſo on board all your Majeſty's ſhips of war then lying in any of the ports or harbours of the ſaid United Kingdom, or of the iſlands aforeſaid; and on all the forts and caſtles in your Majeſty's Colonies, Plantations, and Settlements; and on board your Majeſty's ſhips employed on foreign ſervice, as ſoon after the ſaid Firſt day of January next as your Majeſty's Proclamation or Order in Council ſhall be received by the Governors or Commanders in Chief of your Majeſty's Colonies, Plantations, and Settlements; and by the Commanders of your Majeſty's ſhips employed on foreigh ſervice.

His Majeſty having taken the ſaid Report into conſideration, is pleaſed, by and with the advice of his Privy Council, to approve thereof, and to order, as it is hereby ordered, that his Grace the Duke of Portland, his Majeſty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, do receive his Majeſty's pleaſure upon ſuch

parts of the ſaid Report as fall within the department of his Majeſty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department; and do ſignify the ſame within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, his Majeſty's Colonies and Plantations and Settlements, the iſlands of Guernſey, Jerſey, Alderney, Sark, and Man, and other his Majeſty's dominions.

STEPHEN COTTRELL.

In the new Arms of the United Kingdom, England is twice quartered:—ſhe holds the firſt and fourth quarters. Scotland the ſecond, and Ireland the third. In the King's Arms, the Armorial Bearing of Hanover is no longer quarterly, but is to be borne as an *Eſcutcheon of Pretence*.

In the Badges the *Thiſtle* and *Shamrock* riſe alternately from the ſame ſtalk as the *Roſe*; ſo that upon carriages, or wherever the Badge is to be uſed, the is *Thiſtle* in one inſtance to be on the right of the *Roſe*, the other on the left, thus avoiding all ſhew of preference.

An ancient Creſt of Ireland is adopted *(the Caſtle)* as well as the Harp.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

Thurſday, November 27.

MR. Tierney roſe to move that the houſe ſhould reſolve itſelf into a committee on the ſtate of the nation. He could not, he obſerved, bring forward a motion of ſuch magnitude, did he not conceive that he was called upon by the ſituation of the country for ſuch a diſcharge of his duty. Miniſters, he had no doubt, would ſay, that no diſcuſſion ought to be entertained but ſuch as related to the exiſting ſcarcity; on the other hand he muſt agree that it was proper for the public to know the real ſtate of the country, out of which diſcuſſion much uſeful information may ariſe with reſpect to the exiſting evil; and with reſpect to alleviating the diſtreſſes of the poor, the attempt of miniſters would, he feared, fall far ſhort of the general expectations. It had been obſerved of the preſent government ſince the acceſſion of certain gentlemen to its numbers, that it formed a government at once ſtrange, uncouth, and unnatural. They had been brought together only for one common object, which was to overthrow the revolution of France. He now wiſhed to call the attention of the houſe, to ſee whether this uncouth union, this common intereſt, at the concluſion of eight years, had accompliſhed any one end for which they had aſſociated. On this ſubject the country felt great anxiety, and, without any preface, he would ſtate at once what he conceived parliament owed the country. It owed it a ſtrict inveſtigation into the object of the war, and how it had been conducted ſince its commencement to the preſent period. He called for an enquiry into the ſtate of the nation, becauſe, on the miniſter's own ſtatement, ſuch an enquiry was not neceſſary. Surely it muſt be ſo, when a right hon. gentleman, ſpeaking of the expedition to Holland, obſerved, that the whole career of the Britiſh arms on that occaſion was one ſeries of ſucceſs. The object of the war was ſtated to be for the purpoſe of curbing the power of France, to repreſs the effects of the revolution, and to eſtabliſh what was called a regular government of that country. But the war ſince branched into more parts, and was equally hoſtile to our friends as our foes. Was the war againſt Holland, he aſked, to be reckoned among our military triumphs, when their fleets, troops, and ſettlements, ſurrendered without bloodſhed to the Britiſh fleet? We have taken Minorca and Trinidad, and made an enemy of Spain. It was not only a naval but a military war, and with reſpect to the latter the right hon. gentleman (Mr. Dundas) in his novel ſituation, had drawn on himſelf great reſponſibility. Mr. Tierney then proceeded to beſtow a merited eulogium on our fleets, the ſkill of our commanders, and the valour of our ſeamen. On this ſubject, he ſaid, but one opinion prevailed, and to that opinion no man more freely ſubſcribed than he did. But he argued, that France ſhould have been our only object of attack, not Holland and Spain. It was not his intention to contraſt the preſent with the American war; but there was another war, that of 1763, to which he entreated a compariſon. That was called the ſeven years war, the whole expence of which was, under the auſpices of lord Chatham, not more than 11,000,000l. per annum, though we have, during the preſent conteſt, incurred a debt of 200,000,000l, with an annual expence of 25,000,000l. It was neceſſary then for the right hon. gentleman to ſhow now, as an apology for his ill ſucceſs, that parliament was more liberal then in men and money than they are now. The number of men employed in all parts of the world was, including thoſe ſerving in America, Ire-

land, and the East Indies, 128 regiments, about 76,000, exclusive of militia. By the votes of this year, the house would find 100,000 men, exclusive of those we had in Ireland, and the great part of the force serving in the East and West Indies. During that war we lost nothing but Minorca, and an enquiry into the circumstance took place. During the present war we took Martinique, St. Lucia, and the Factories in India from France, and Minorca and Trinidad from Spain, and Malta. In the seven years war, Louisbourg, Nova Scotia, Canada, Guadaloupe, Manilla, Havre de Grace, &c. He anticipated that ministers would say, our troops were successful in taking the dominions of Tippoo; certainly every credit was due to the activity of lord Mornington on that occasion, and the valour of the troops; but were they, he asked, equal to the atchievements of lord Clive and Sir Eyre Coote, in India, who laid the foundation for the subsequent conquests. He then adverted to the gallant exploits of sir Charles Grey and lord St. Vincent, and the gallantry of the force under their command, at St. Lucia, which was lost because the minister did not send out reinforcements. He next adverted to the taking of Toulon and Corsica, and the evacuation of these places afterwards, which was a circumstance, he insisted, that called for enquiry. He next proceeded to take a view of the expeditions against Dunkirk, Quiberon, Ferrol, and Cadiz—did ministers call these splendid atchievements? Was there a yard of coast from the Texel to Leghorn that our fleets and army did not menance, and were they not every where discomfitted? Did these expeditions, under the present ministers, exhibit the laurels or the splendid conquests of the British arms? Certainly not; and it was a duty we owed those who served on these occasions to institute enquiry, for which he now called. He next adverted to the expedition under sir James Pulteney. A British force, consisting of 12,000 men, he observed, attacked Ferrol: he would not comment on the transaction, but merely say that they landed and came back again; he then, with an united force, made an attempt on Cadiz, commanded by British officers without, and with the plague within. No great atchievement there. The force was then divided, and one division reached Portugal, and the other was gone to Malta, or on its way to Egypt. No twelve months in the British history presented such a scene of discomfiture and disgrace as the last, when our military affairs were under the management of the right hon. gentleman who had planned these measures. There was not an officer scarcely without doors who did not condemn the conduct and plans of the right hon. gentleman. He next observed on the escape of the French fleet from Toulon, and the invasion of Egypt; how did ministers account for that disaster, where was their secret service money, which, exclusive of the civil list, amounted to 200,000l. a year. Could they not procure, with such a sum at their command, any knowledge of the destination of the French force on that memorable occasion? He next adverted to the capture of St. Domingo, and the danger to which our West India Islands was exposed by having it wrested from us; and yet in this enterprize, he remarked, that ten millions had been lavished to no purpose. He then proceeded to state the situation of our allies at the commencement of the war, and their situation at present. With respect to Austria, that was a subject which would come before the House on Monday, and for that reason he would not expatiate on it at present. But thus much he must say, that in the Gazette of one day it was formerly announced, in July, that the emperor had quitted Vienna to take the command of his army, while in the papers of the day following the public were assured, and assured truly, that he had signed an armistice with France; how then could ministers indulge the hope that he would not make a separate peace? He then adverted to the intelligence received by the Hamburgh mail of this day—from this it appeared that seventy sail of our shipping had been seized at Riga—that the emperor of Russia was at declared hostilities with this country, and from this circumstance, and others recent in the minds of the house, a war with northern powers was inevitable. Here then he called upon the house to pause and consider the consequence—America would, he feared, join the league, and by this unfortunate means we should be deprived of those resources which the committee on the scarcity of provisions looked up to with a sanguine hope for relief. Mr. Tierney then entered into a copious view of the situation of our finances, and concluded by moving, That the house should resolve itself to a committee to consider of the state of the nation.

Mr. Pitt, in reply, said, that the hon. gentleman had used a wide and extensive field of argument, much more wide than he first expressed was his intention, when he gave his notice of the motion. The hon. gentleman had called for an inquiry

into the ſtate of the nation, to ſhow what operation the war had upon the country, as alſo with reſpect to the relative ſtate of the finances of the country, compared to the preſent time and period of peace. The hon. gentleman ſays that the eyes of the country were turned toward parliament. The obſervation was true, and he hoped that, in every ſtate of emergency, the eyes of the public would be fixed upon its repreſentatives, who were ever alive to its intereſts. The houſe had been convened at this time by his majeſty for the purpoſe expreſſed in his ſpeech, to conſider of the preſent temporary difficulty; and it were to be wiſhed that gentlemen in this period of preſſure had confined themſelves to that ſubject, for which parliament had been aſſembled. The queſtion now for the houſe to conſider was, whether parliament was called upon for a ſpecific reſolution on the ſtate of the nation. His majeſty, in his ſpeech at the commencement of the ſeſſion, had ſtated, that he was willing to make conſiderable ſacrifices to promote general tranquillity; was it not then the duty of parliament to ſtrengthen the hands of his majeſty, as the beſt means of producing thoſe happy effects which are the wiſhes of the ſovereign? Now, ſurely, when parliament was convened for ſpecial purpoſes, and when the houſe was reſolved to ſupport him againſt the unjuſt views of the enemy, it was ſtrange, indeed, without ſtating new grounds, to call for a committee of inquiry. With reſpect to much of the matter contained in the hon. member's ſpeech, it had been before debated, and the houſe had decided according to their judgment, whether an inquiry ſhould be inſtituted or not. Now, when he had only recapitulated many of his former arguments, and had ſtated no new fact, he did not ſee why the houſe ſhould be induced to accede to his motion. The hon. gentleman has, with much energy, and in glowing colours, depicted the failures, as he called them, but has cautiouſly avoided touching on thoſe glorious atchievements of our navies and our armies, that muſt for ever place the conductors of them high on the ſcroll of fame. Surely the hon. gentleman will not contend that the exploits of the navy have been of no uſe to the country. He would aſk if the poſſeſſion of Minorca and of Malta were not acquiſitions to the country? But it was ſaid, the latter could not be called an acquiſition, as it did not belong to France before the commencement of the war; and yet it was contended that the French being in poſſeſſion of Egypt would be the means of the enemy acting with conſiderable effect againſt England; was it not then apparent that they were likely to carry fewer of their deſigns into execution againſt this country, while we maintained poſſeſſion of Malta? the fact was manifeſt, and anſwered itſelf. The poſſeſſions too we had taken from Holland, were they to be conſidered as nothing in the ſcale of acquirements, particularly thoſe places in the eaſtern world, which, coming under the confiſcating hand of France, would have been employed as ſources of force, and turned againſt this country? As it was, they were better in our guard and keeping, than in poſſeſſion of Holland itſelf, unleſs reſtored to a regular government. Surely theſe muſt be called great and important acquirements; but if they were ſo, they were all eclipſed in the event, brought about in the ſame hemiſphere, by a noble relation of his, an event that conſolidated the Britiſh intereſts in India, and had done more than all put together, to advance the welfare of the country, he meant the dethroning the ſultaun of Myſore, who was the avowed and inveterate enemy to the independence of England. The hon. gentleman had aſked, why did we engage in the war? He ſhould anſwer, France would not let us be at peace, without ſacrificing to the ſhrine of her inordinate ambition every thing that was dear to Engliſhmen! but he would contend, that it was not to the war that we were to aſcribe our preſent calamities, nor was it a fair ground to ſay, that the war has unneceſſarily been upheld by his majeſty's miniſters. Here Mr. Pitt went into the various domeſtic events that have occurred to bring calamities upon the people abſtracted from the real evils produced by warfare, and contended that, in all theſe viciſſitudes, his majeſty's miniſters had ſhown themſelves prompt and efficient in propoſing remedies to extricate the country from difficulties. Among other things, he ſaid, it was no ſmall important one, that they had, at home, preſerved the conſtitution entire, at a time when jacobiniſm, by the artifices of France, was foſtering itſelf in this country; and that abroad they had deſtroyed the enemy's poſſeſſions, and increaſed their own. With reſpect to reſponſibility, which the hon. gentleman had talked ſo much about, he could only ſay, that reſponſibility did not reſt individually with him; if there was ground for blame, which he by no means conſented to, it reſted with the whole of thoſe that ſwayed his majeſty's councils. Here Mr. Pitt recapi-

tulated the ſeveral topics Mr. Tierney had touched upon, and aſked if it was a crime in miniſters, that the king of Pruſſia ſtopped ſhort of his promiſed aſſiſtance, or that our allies ſhould not prove true to their faith? But the hon. gentleman, he ſaid, had argued, that becauſe we could not ſecure a permanent co-operation, we were not to take advantage of temporary aſſiſtance, as if we had derived no aid from the endeavours of Pruſſia, Auſtria, Ruſſia, and even Spain, while we had it: it was the reverſe; at that time we could rally all Europe—and ſhou'd they now have dropt off, he would pledge himſelf it was no want of faith in this country, or fault in miniſters. On the ſubject of peace he ſhould ſay but little: it might probably relieve us from ſome few of our difficulties, but he was ſure in the preſent ſtate of continental affairs it would create greater. Here Mr. Pitt repeated what he had advanced a few evenings ſince, that down to the 9th of November the emperor had entertained no deſire of making a ſeparate peace, that his communications had hitherto been fair and explicit: but that he could not foreſee what change in the councils of Vienna might take place; it therefore, he would contend, was not a point of honour or of prudence to ſet about a fruitleſs negotiation for peace, but thought we ought to wait for a ſhort time, and ſee what the event would be. At preſent it was more deſirable for this country to carry on war conjointly with Auſtria, than to make a ſeparate peace.

Mr. Pitt obſerved, that he had been called on to anſwer a queſtion, if he knew of an embargo having been laid on all Britiſh property in Ruſſian ports; he could only ſay that ſuch information had come to his ear from a ſource which led him to believe it, but he had received no official intimation of ſuch an event. A ſimilar thing, it might be remembered, took place ſome time back, which was a ſhort time after abandoned; it might, probably, be the ſame now; be that, he ſaid, as it ſhould, he could affirm, that nothing in this country has been done to give that magnificent ſovereign cauſe to act in the way he had done; further he ſhould not ſay.

Mr. Pitt now combated the arguments of Mr. Tierney, wherein he ſtated, that the war was the cauſe of the high price of proviſions, upon the grounds of the increaſe of conſumption and waſte in the army and navy, and the exceſſive taxes impoſed upon the bulk of the people. Mr. Pitt contended this doctrine to be fallacious, as it was a known fact, that in the years 1798 & 9, when the war was raging with the greateſt fury, that corn was cheaper in the market than it had been at any other period during the war, and proviſions of all kinds were cheaper; conſequently, if war was the cauſe at one time of making proviſions dear, it muſt be at another: now as he had ſhown that not to be the caſe in 1798 & 9, it muſt be conſidered as a falſe propoſition. He concluded by obſerving, that the principal grounds of argument adopted by Mr. Tierney were not attainable, and that nothing but ſophiſtry could ſupport them; that the circumſtances of the times were not ſuch as to call for a committee of enquiry into the ſtate of the nation; that ſuch a proceeding was wholly impracticable, and only calculated to awaken deſpondency in the minds of the people without producing any real advantage to the country. He ſhould therefore oppoſe the motion of the hon. gentleman.

Mr. Thornton ſaid a few words as to the extent of paper currency, and contended it was neceſſary to the great increaſe of our commercial dealings.

Mr. Grey contended that the appointment of a committee was fit and neceſſary upon every ground advanced by his hon. friend. He denied the aſſertion of Mr. Pitt, that the preſent war was a war of unexampled ſucceſs, and inſiſted that it was a war ſuper-eminently diſtinguiſhed by misfortunes, failures and diſaſters, notwithſtanding he ſhould do every juſtice to the exploits of our navy, which, he ſaid, had been the only means of ſaving the country; and that England might, at preſent, be compared to a ſick man dying in the midſt of abundance. He aſſerted, that all the objects we had gone to war for remained unaccompliſhed, and that France had aggrandized poſſeſſions beyond her moſt ſanguine expectations; and that it behoved the country to look into its preſent ſituation, and enquire into its diſaſters and failures, which could not be done in his opinion in any other way than by appointing a committee for that purpoſe; the people would then ſee if it was owing to the inattention or incapacity of miniſters, and be able to act accordingly. From theſe views he ſhould ſupport the motion.

Mr. Canning combated the arguments of Mr. Grey, and oppoſed the motion on the ground that in the preſent ſituation of the country ſuch an enquiry was totally unneceſſary.

Mr. W. Smith ſupported the motion, and in expreſſing his ſtrong diſapprobation

at the conduct of the war, obſerved, that after we had been compelled to evacuate Corſica, Toulon, St. Domingo, Guadaloupe, and the Helder, it was matter of aſtoniſhment to him that a right hon. gentleman (Mr. Dundas) ſhould have the effrontery to aſſert, that the war was ſucceſsful.

Mr. Dundas ſaid he never would retract the opinion he had advanced with regard to the war; and aſſerted, that our army, as well as navy, on every occaſion, had come off with glory and with ſplendour, highly creditable to themſelves, and honourable to government.

Mr. Jones, and ſir Francis Burdett ſupported the motion. Mr. Tierney replied, and Mr. Canning and Mr. Thornton explained; after which the houſe divided, ayes 37, noes 157, majority 120.

Friday, December 12.

The attorney general brought up the bill for the diſcontinuance of the habeas corpus act.

Mr. Joliffe roſe, and oppoſed the bill, which, he ſaid, was an annihilation of every thing that could conduce to our liberty. He ſaid it was the right of every man taken up for ſedition to have witneſſes againſt him confronted with him, and his trial take place in a proper ſpace of time. If any perſons wiſhed to undermine the conſtitution, the law, as it now ſtood, was ſufficient to puniſh them.

Attorney-general—If the hon. member who ſpoke laſt ſuppoſes I called for this meaſure to ſatisfy myſelf, he is miſtaken. In calling for the meaſure, I did conceive that every member of this houſe did fully feel the abſolute neceſſity of it. The power placed by this bill in the hands of his majeſty's miniſters was abſolutely neceſſary—a power, I ſay, that has been uſed with the utmoſt leniency. I propoſe, as I yeſterday ſtated, a ſuſpenſion of the habeas corpus act only for a ſhort ſpace of time, as I would wiſh the queſtion to have a full and free diſcuſſion before the imperial parliament.

The maſter of the rolls, in a few words, ſupported the bill, and explained the object of it, as only continuing till the 1ſt of February, 1801, and then giving the united parliament an opportunity of diſcuſſing the ſubject.

Mr. Hobhouſe—Both of the hon. gentlemen who were the laſt ſpeakers ſeem to be extremely well ſatisfied in their opinion on this ſubject, on account of the ſmall minority laſt night. It does not appear that a meaſure of this nature ſhould be introduced into this houſe without proper proofs being laid before the houſe of the neceſſity of it. The hon. gentleman appeals to the feelings of the houſe for the neceſſity of the meaſure. If treaſonous ſocieties exiſted in this kingdom, if a foreign enemy was in the country, then this appeal to the feelings would be proper. Another ground of the hon. gentleman's argument that the bill ſhould paſs, is the mildneſs and leniency with which it has been uſed by miniſters. Has this this been the caſe, where perſons have been detained for three years without any form of trial? Why is the diſcuſſion on this ſubject referred to the imperial parliament? Why ſhould the liberties of the country be ſuſpended for a month? Or why are we not to have a full and free diſcuſſion at this period?

Mr. Sheridan oppoſed the bill in an animated ſpeech, in which he called on the attorney general to lay before the houſe any proof of conſpiracy exiſting in the country, if any he had. He aſked the hon. gentleman if the Britiſh parliament was not competent to judge for itſelf on the ſubject, and therefore why ſhould the diſcuſſion of the ſubject be deferred till the Iriſh gentlemen came over? Were they better informed on the internal diſturbances of the kingdom than the Britiſh members? To make them maſters of the ſubject, lay before them every document, all former reports of committees, and they will then find, that, inſtead of being united with a kingdom full of loyalty and love of their ſovereign, they have got themſelves in as bad a meſs as that from which they have recently been relieved: they will find that they are united with a kingdom in ſo bad a ſtate as to make it neceſſary to ſuſpend the conſtitution. The preſent laws of the country, he ſaid, were certainly ſufficient for the internal peace of the country. On theſe topics he dwelt for ſome time with his uſual reaſoning, and concluded with giving the motion his utmoſt oppoſition.

Mr. Pitt ſaid, that the hon. gentleman who ſpoke laſt would ſeem to urge, that it is not at all neceſſary for the public ſafety to continue the ſuſpenſion of the act. The hon. gentleman cannot ſuppoſe that it is to continue always, or that it would be now continued, if the public ſafety did not require it. Does the hon. gentleman ſuppoſe that his individual opinion is to be deciſive for parliament. It is the opinion of every man, that the circumſtances under which this bill was introduced, made it abſolutely neceſſary; and

he was proud to ſay, that this, and other meaſures that have been taken, have rendered the country much more tranquil than when they were introduced. Did the hon. gentleman pretend to ſay, that the evidence formerly laid before the houſe did not call for this meaſure. The firmneſs with which parliament has acted, has ſaved the country from the ſtruggles which have agitated the reſt of Europe. It is neceſſary to prolong the bill until the united parliament meets. The houſe could not wait for them, but he is convinced that they will judge of the neceſſity of the meaſure, and participate therein.

Mr. Grey oppoſed the bill, and, in an argumentative ſpeech, entered his proteſt againſt the extraordinary meaſure of ſuſpending the habeas corpus act.

The houſe then divided,—For the queſtion 56—Againſt it 11.

Monday, December 22.

The chancellor of the exchequer moved, that the houſe, on its riſing, do adjourn to Monday next.

Mr. Robſon complained, that the houſe, which had been ſitting ſince the 11th of November, had as yet done nothing for the people. The houſe, in fact, had done nothing but miſchief. His majeſty's miniſters had trumpeted forth the cry of ſcarcity, and the committee above ſtairs, acting in conſequence, had raiſed the price of grain in every part of Europe. He ridiculed the idea of feeding two millions of people on corned herrings. The houſe, inſtead of relieving, had only employed themſelves in taxing the people. It was incumbent on that houſe to ſhow an example at the preſent criſis. The ſituation of the country called for effective meaſures. There was not a moment to be loſt; and therefore he felt it his duty to oppoſe any motion for adjournment.

Sir John Wrotteſley moved, that the galleries be cleared. Strangers were, of courſe, excluded. After which, Mr. Robſon made a long ſpeech, in which he was ſupported by Mr. Nicholls and Mr. Jones. The chancellor of the exchequer replied; when the original motion was put and carried.

Adjourned till December 29.

CONTINENTAL ADVICES.

Downing-ſtreet, November 29.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Penroſe, his Majeſty's Charge d'Affaires at Florence, to Lord Grenville, dated Monte Varchi near Florence, October 16.

IT is with the greateſt ſatisfaction that I acquaint your lordſhip, that the property of his majeſty's ſubjects at Leghorn has been, as well as circumſtances would permit, prevented from falling into the hands of the enemy, under the protection of his majeſty's ſhips of war ſtationed at that port, off which a frigate will ſtill remain to prevent any veſſels going in.

Ancona, October 27.

HIS majeſty's ſtores, and Engliſh ſhips and merchandiſe at Leghorn, in value more than half a million ſterling, have been ſaved from the plunder of the enemy.

Amberg, Nov. 30, Five o'clock, P.M.

In advancing toward Portſaal, a few ſmall detachments only of the enemy, of the diviſion of Collaud, were met with between Ratiſbon and Kelhaim, who were probably on their march to Landſhut. Colonel Walmoden ſurrounded the village of Lengenfeld, near Portſaal, and carried off the garriſon which was left there, conſiſting of ſeven officers, two hundred cavalry and infantry, and ſixty horſes. Colonel Walmoden found the garriſon of Kelhaim, which conſiſted of a few hundred men, retiring. The loſs of the Auſtrians in this march has been very inconſiderable. Captain Scheibler, of the Houlans de Meerveldt, poſted with a detachment of ſixty horſe near Freyſtadt, attacked, in the morning of the 29th, at Pleinfeldt, the 7th regiment of French cuiraſſiers of three hundred men, during its march, put it into diſorder, and made two officers and ſeven men priſoners; the colonel of the regiment was wounded, and two officers were killed. The loſs of the enemy has been twenty killed and wounded. Captain Scheibler, who was ſlightly wounded in the arm, had two men killed and two made priſoners. Pleinfeld is evacuated by the enemy, and none have paſſed through it ſince the laſt column, which paſſed through on the 29th.

Extract of a Letter from his Royal Highneſs the Archduke John, to the Council of War, at Vienna, dated Haun, December 1.

ACCORDING to the intention which I yeſterday communicated to the council of war, I advanced this morning, before day-break, with three columns, in order to attack the enemy. We found them ad-

vantageouſly poſted on a riſing ground; and they defended themſelves with the greateſt obſtinacy. Our attacks were repeatedly repulſed; at length, however, our brave troops remained victorious, after ten hours reſiſtance on the part of the enemy, who diſputed the ground inch by inch, but who were compelled to abandon us (in as far as I am at preſent informed) ſix pieces of cannon and 800 priſoners.

Our out poſts are near Haag. From what I have been able to collect from the priſoners, the number of troops that oppoſed us amounted to three diviſions.

Thoſe who have particularly diſtinguiſhed themſelves on this occaſion, are the regiment of Lacy, which had three ſtaff officers wounded. Thoſe of Weezey and Benioffſky huſſars, the 60th regiment of infantry, the third battalions of Peterwardeiner and the Gradiſkaner, the frontier huſſars, and the artillery.

Major-general Loppart, who commanded the van guard, and captain Junger, of Weezey huſſars, at the head of his ſquadron, attacked and carried one of the enemy's batteries. Field marſhal lieutenant Klenau mentions his having paſſed the Danube, puſhed on as far as Arbach, made ſeveral priſoners, and inveſted Straubing and Ratiſbon; major-general Muſery took at Landſhut, a company of French grenadiers and three officers. Our loſs in wounded is not inconſiderable. I ſhall ſend a detailed account of it, as well as of the whole affair, as ſoon as circumſtances enable me to do ſo.

Downing-ſtreet, December 20.

DISPATCHES, of which the following are extract and copies, have been received from William Wickham, eſq. by the right hon. lord Grenville, his majeſty's principal ſecretary of ſtate for the foreign department.

Extract of a letter from William Wickham, eſq. to the right hon. lord Grenville, dated head-quarters, Amſing, November 30.

On the 28th, after I had written my diſpatch from Eggenfenden, the head-quarters were removed to Maſſing on the Rodt.

The head-quarters were laſt night at Neumark, and arrived here this day at about twelve o'clock; the roads being ſtill in a moſt dreadful ſtate, a great part of the army is ſtill behind.

On the archduke's arrival here, he found the enemy in force on the heights immediately in front of the town.

The Tete du Pont of Waſſerbourg was attacked yeſterday, and the enemy repulſed with ſome loſs, after having entered the abbatis in front of the work.

Head-quarters, Haag, Dec. 2.

My Lord,

I have the honour to ſend your lordſhip the encloſed copy of a report I have this day received from his ſerene highneſs the prince of Conde, containing an account of the attack which the enemy made yeſterday on a part of his ſerene highneſs' corps, commanded by the duke of Enghien, in front of Roſenheim.

I have the honour to be, &c.

WILLIAM WICKHAM.

The right hon. lord Grenville.

Account of the Action at Roſenheim, on the 1ſt of December.

Our advanced poſts, on the left ſide of the inn, were attacked this day at noon; their right had been abſolutely uncovered for three days paſt, and the enemy was already on the banks on that ſide of the river; the advanced poſts, commanded by the duke d'Enghein, were engaged upward of four hours, diſputing the ground inch by inch; the whole corps was not aſſembled on the right ſide of the inn before five o'clock. A pretty ſtrong column of the enemy having marched out of the town, it was allowed to advance till within the proper diſtance, when the prince of Conde ordered all the batteries to fire upon it at once; this fire, well directed and well ſuſtained, compelled the column to retreat into the town immediately.—Lieutenant-colonel de Sartige, of the engineers, protected by the fire of the artillery, broke down the bridge, but in ſuch a manner as that it could promptly be reeſtabliſhed, if, as it is hoped, it ſhould be neceſſary.

Our loſs is very ſmall; that of the enemy muſt have been more conſiderable. An artillery man was wounded by the ſide of the duke d'Angouleme. No officers are known as yet to have been wounded, except Mr. de Vaſſe, adjutant to the duke d'Angouleme, and the engineer de Caſtre.

Head-quarters, Haag, Dec. 2.

My Lord,

The march of General Kienmayer toward the Iſer, and the direction which the whole army had firſt taken toward Landſhut, having drawn a conſiderable part of general Moreau's force toward Aerding, the heights between Ampfing and Haag

had been occupied by one ſingle diviſion under general Ney.

In the courſe of laſt night, however, general Moreau had reinforced his poſition with two more diviſions, and had taken the command of the whole himſelf.

Yeſterday at day-break the heights were attacked. After an obſtinate reſiſtance on the part of the enemy, they were carried in ſucceſſion as far as the hill on the ſide of Ramſau, where the troops were obliged to halt, from exceſſive fatigue, about ſix in the evening.

In the night, general Moreau abandoned this place, and retired to his old poſition at Hohenlenden and Aerding.

The whole ground from Ampfing to Ramſau was particularly favourable to the enemy, and conſiſted in heights covered with thick woods, and interſected by deep maſhy vallies, where the Auſtrian cavalry could not poſſibly act.

The Auſtrians took 800 priſoners and two pieces of cannon—the cannon were taken with four others, by the huſſars of Veſcey, who diſtinguiſhed themſelves very much during the affair, throwing themſelves into the woods, in places where it was thought impoſſible for cavalry to have penetrated. The other four pieces of cannon were retaken by a charge of the enemy's grenadiers, there not having been time to ſend a ſufficient force to ſopport the huſſars.

The loſs of the Auſtrians is computed to be near 1500 men in killed, wounded, and priſoners. General Moreau is ſaid by the priſoners to have received a muſket ball through the cloak.

The archduke was on horſeback twelve hours, and ſlept in a hovel on the heights.

I have the honour to be, &c.

WILLIAM WICKHAM.

Right hon. lord Grenville.

Downing-ſtreet, December 23.

A DISPATCH, of which the following is an extract, dated head-quarters, Muhldorff on the Inn, Thurſday, Dec. 4, 1800, has been received from William Wickham, eſq. by the right hon. lord Grenville, his majeſty's principal ſecretary of ſtate for the foreign department.

The army marched in the night of Tueſday, and before day-break yeſterday morning, toward Hohenlinden, in three columns; the centre along the great road to Munich, which paſſes through Hohenlinden; the right and left in the woods on each ſide of the great road.

The corps of general Kienmayer, which was deſtined to take the enemy in flank, marched from Dorfen in the direction of Schwaben.

The columns ought all to have arrived at their deſtination a little before day-break, or at the lateſt between eight and nine o'clock; but from a heavy fall of ſnow and ſleet, which continued all night and the greater part of the morning, the centre column only was at its deſtination at eight o'clock, while both the left and right were ſtill conſiderably behind; and the left under general Riſch had, beſides, loſt its way, and marched to the left, toward Eberſberg, inſtead of turning to the right, in the direction of Hohenlinden.

In this ſtate of things it appears, that the diviſion of general Richpanſe pierced between the left and the centre about nine o'clock, got upon the great road behind the centre, and fell upon the left flank and rear of that column at the time that it had formed in front, and had juſt begun to attack the enemy's poſition.

I have not yet been able to obtain any accurate account of what paſſed afterward; but it ſeems that the diſorder ſoon became irretrievable, and that the retreat toward the heights of Ramſau was made with very heavy loſs, particularly in artillery. Generals Spaniorchi and Leppert are priſoners. I have not yet heard of the loſs of any other officers of the ſame rank.

General Kienmayer was attacked on his march by two diviſions from Aerding, and ſuffered alſo ſeverely in his retreat, which he made upon Iſen in good order, on learning the diſaſter that had befallen the main army.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

[From the London Gazettes.]

Admiralty-office, November 29.

Copy of a Letter from Captain Frederick Watkins, Commander of his Majeſty's Ship Nereide, to Evan Nepean, Eſq. dated in Curaçoa, October 15.

Sir,

BE pleaſed to inform my lords-commiſſioners of the admiralty, I have thought it indiſpenſably neceſſary to ſend theſe diſpatches to England by my firſt officer,

lieutenant Paul, to acquaint their lordſhips of the ſurrender of the valuable iſland of Curaçoa to his majeſty's frigate under my command. I beg leave to tranſmit duplicates of all my letters to the right hon. lord Hugh Seymour, and the articles of capitulation agreed on between his excellency Johan Rudolph Lauffer and myſelf; as alſo inventories of warlike ſtores, ſhipping, &c. I hope their lordſhips will ſanction my conduct in taking poſſeſſion of this centrical and valuable iſland in his majeſty's name.

Lieut. Paul I cannot recommend in too ſtrong a language to their lordſhips, for his zealous exertions during the whole of the ſiege: and for any further information he is perfectly able to deſcribe every thing their lordſhips may be deſirous of knowing reſpecting Curaçoa. I have the honour to be, &c.

FRED. WATKINS.

His majeſty's ſhip Nereide, off Amſterdam, iſland of Curaçoa, Sept. 11.

My lord,

I wiſh not to loſe a moment in ſending a faſt ſailing veſſel to inform your lordſhip, that the iſland of Curaçoa has claimed the protection of his Britannic majeſty. I have in conſequence felt it my duty to take poſſeſſion of it in his name.

I am now running for the harbour, as it is abſolutely neceſſary to loſe no time to ſave the iſland from the enemy, who threaten to ſtorm the principal fort to-night; but I truſt the Nereide's aſſiſtance will be the means of fruſtrating the enemy's views, and ſaving a moſt valuable colony for his majeſty.

I compute the force of the French to be about 1500 now in poſſeſſion of the weſt part of the iſland, but no ſtrong poſt of any conſequence to prevent my holding the forts commanding Amſterdam, until I am honoured with an anſwer from your lordſhip.

There is great property afloat belonging to the Spaniards.

Lieut. Paul will have the honour of delivering this diſpatch to your lordſhip, of whoſe exertions and zeal for the ſervice I cannot ſpeak in too ſtrong terms. I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) F. WATKINS.

The right. hon. lord Hugh Seymour, &c.

His majeſty's ſhip Nereide, off Amſterdam, Sept. 14.

My lord,

Since ſending my laſt diſpatch of the 11th inſt. governor Johan Rudolph Lauffer has finally ſurrendered the iſland of Curaçoa and its dependencies to his majeſty's arms.

Incloſed I have the honour of tranſmitting to your lordſhip a copy of the terms of capitulation. I have the honour to be, &c. FRED. WATKINS.

The right hon. lord Hugh Seymour, &c.

[Here follows the articles of capitulation.]

His majeſty's ſhip Nereide, Curaçoa harbour, September 23.

My lord,

I have now the ſatisfaction to inform your lordſhip that the Engliſh colours are flying in this iſland, and that I have entered this harbour in conſequence of the total evacuation of the French forces laſt night. I am now arranging affairs in ſuch a manner as to tranquillize the minds of the inhabitants, and reſtore perfect peace in the name of his majeſty in this valuable iſland. I have been received with great faith, and will do my utmoſt in eſtabliſhing the ſecurity of the principal fortreſs till I receive your lordſhip's anſwer for my further conduct. Incloſed I have the honour of tranſmitting to you an inventory of warlike ſtores, ammunition, &c. in the garriſon, except thoſe lately in poſſeſſion of the enemy, which I have not yet received the regular returns of, but have given the neceſſary orders. It was my intention to have ſent a farther diſpatch to your lordſhip by the remaining lieutenant, Mr. James Hodgſon; but, as I do not exactly conceive myſelf in a perfect ſtate of ſafety, without having perfect poſſeſſion of the principal fortreſs which commands the town, I have appointed him, with a party of my own men, to that command; his zeal, bravery, and univerſal ſteady conduct in any ſervice he is ordered on, makes my mind perfectly eaſy in doing ſo: he has been of the utmoſt ſervice in a new-erected battery in annoying the enemy, and indeed may be conſidered the principal cauſe of their retreat.—Lieut. Fitton, commanding the Active tender, I have much pleaſure in recommending to your lordſhip's notice, from his activity and ſpirited conduct ſince he has joined me. From him, my lord, you will receive material information as to all ſituations of the iſland and its valuable harbour. I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) F. WATKINS.

The right hon. lord Hugh Seymour, &c. &c.

[Here follows a liſt of the veſſels lying in the harbour of Curaçoa 44 in number; conſiſting of eight Dutch, eight Danes, ſeven American, 11 French, ſeven Spaniſh, and three Engliſh prize ſhips.]

CAPTURES from the ENEMY.

ATALANTE privateer of 10 guns, by the Hawke.

La Confianza privateer of two guns, and St. Miguel of nine guns, by the Netley.

L'Actif privateer of 14 guns, by the Thames.

St. Jago ſchooner of 10 guns, by the Brilliant.

L'Eclair privateer of three guns, by the Lord Duncan.

HISTORICAL CHRONICLE.

DECEMBER 2.

THE total amount of coals imported into the port of London, beeween the 1ſt of January and the 31ſt of October, 1799, and the 1ſt of January and the 31ſt of October, 1800, amounted in the former period to 724,039 chaldrons, and 538¾ tons; and in the latter period to 847,130 chaldrons, 6 buſhels, and 674½ tons;—the duties in the whole year 1799, amounted to 733,678l. 11s. 4½d.

DECEMBER 6.

Wedneſday the recorder made his report to his majeſty of the priſoners under ſentence of death in Newgate, convicted in October ſeſſion laſt, when Thomas Williams, Henry Nerod, alias Williams, and Robert Claſſon were ordered for execution on Thurſday the 11th inſtant.

DECEMBER 16.

On Saturday morning, between nine and ten o'clock, as two gentlemen and a foreigner of diſtinction were travelling in a poſt-chaiſe, they were ſtopped by three footpads, armed with piſtols, near the eight-mile ſtone, between Shooter's Hill and Welling, who robbed them of their watches, caſh, and notes, to the amount of above 100l. beſide a number of articles of value. Juſt as they were done plundering the gentlemen, Mr. Taylor, of Crayford, on horſeback, came within ſight, and the robbers making off acroſs a field, Mr. Taylor ſuſpected what had happened; he went to the chaiſe, and the gentlemen informed him of the robbery, and another gentleman on horſeback coming up, they agreed to go in purſuit of the robbers, and ſoon came within ſight of them; the robbers were running, and the horſemen purſued them till they ſaw them go into Hanging Wood, near Charlton. Suppoſing they had ſome place to hide themſelves, or that they ſhould not ſucceed in ſecuring three men, Mr. Taylor rode off with all poſſible ſpeed to Woolwich, and gave the alarm at the barracks, when the officers, with an alacrity which does them great credit, ordered about fifty of the men belonging to the train of artillery to join in the purſuit. A number of them ſurrounded the wood, and the other went into the wood, headed by Mr. Taylor and the other gentleman on horſeback. After a very long ſearch, paſſing a ditch, three men came ſuddenly out, and were running away, but were obſerved by Mr. Taylor, who being on horſeback, gave the alarm; they were purſued, and at length, after being told if they did not ſurrender they would be ſhot, were ſecured. On ſearching the ditch where the robbers came from, there were found twelve piſtols, eleven of which were loaded, and the other had lately been diſcharged; a very conſiderable ſum in caſh, and bank-notes to a large amount, were concealed in a Welch wig. They were taken to the barracks, where they were ſtripped and ſearched. Some Louis belonging to the foreigner, and a pocket-book belonging to the other gentleman, were found in a great coat belonging to one of them. They were ordered to remain in Woolwich barracks during Saturday night, and yeſterday they were removed to Maidſtone gaol to take their trial at the Maidſtone aſſizes. The priſoners names are James Smith, Richard Shepherd, and Robert Symonds, and there is a ſtrong ſuſpicion they are the gang who ſhot the guard belonging to the Dover coach a ſhort time ſince. Too much praiſe cannot be given to Mr. Taylor and the ſoldiers, who exerted themſelves in ſecuring this deſperate gang.

DECEMBER 24.

BRITISH PRISONERS IN RUSSIA.

Sir,

Various reports having been circulated reſpecting the unfortunate Britiſh ſubjects now in Ruſſia, I ſend you the following authentic information.

The perſons of the Britiſh merchants have hitherto remained unmoleſted; and what ready money they had in their poſſeſſion has not been ſeized; but their warehouſes are ſealed, and all their property is under ſequeſtration. All the Britiſh ſhips and their cargoes are ſeized by the Ruſſian government. The captains and crews are marched into the interior of the country, in companies of one captain and ten or

twelve ſeamen. They are diſtributed in above a hundred different towns, at 100 to 1000 miles diſtance from the capital. The Ruſſian government allows for their ſubſiſtence daily five copeaks in money (about three-halfpence) a ſmall meaſure of rye flour, and one of buck wheat.

My brother and ſome other Britiſh merchants, at St. Peterſburgh, advanced about forty thouſand rubles (a ruble is about half a-crown) for their better accommodation, from which he furniſhed every captain with two hundred rubles for the uſe of himſelf and ten men, and bought for every man a ſheep's-ſkin coat, a fur cap, a ſaſh, a pair of gloves, ſome warm ſhoes, and two pair of ſtockings. Kibitkas, or common carts of the country, are bought for moſt of the captains, and ſome old men; the reſt walk, and the peaſants furniſh horſes for the baggage. On the 21ſt of November, fifty captains, and five hundred ſailors were thus diſpatched from St. Peterſburgh, and the remainder were daily ſetting off on their melancholy journey.

STEPHEN SHAIRP,
Conſul-general in Ruſſia.

No. 73, Gower ſtreet, Dec. 17.

MARRIAGES.

JOHN Addiſon, eſq. of Highgate, to miſs Daukes, of Walworth.

John Ormſby Vandeleur, eſq. M. P. to the right hon. lady Francis Moore.

John Simon Harcourt, eſq. to miſs Henniker, grandaughter to lord Henniker.

Captain Temple Hardy, ſon of the late ſir Charles Hardy, to miſs Ware, of Belmont-lodge, Herts.

Sir Thomas Williams, to miſs Wapſhire, eldeſt daughter of the late Charles Wapſhire, eſq of Saliſbury.

Matthew Higgins, eſq. of Upper Groſvenor-ſtreet, to miſs Baillie, eldeſt daughter of the late James Baillie, eſq. of Ealing-grove, Middleſex.

Sir Hyde Parker, to miſs Onſlow, daughter of admiral Onſlow.

DEATHS.

DUKE de Chablais, uncle to the king of Sardinia.

Hon. Charles Henry Boyle.

Counteſs of Coventry.

William Creaſy, eſq. of Downham, Norfolk.

John Stanhope, eſq. rear-admiral.

J. P. Heath, eſq. barriſter, of the Middle Temple

Sir Edward Hulſe, bart. aged 86.

J. Mehew, eſq. caſhier to the India board of controul.

Earl of Tyrone.

Mr. J. Howard, of Thorne, Yorkſhire, aged 89, and a few days after his widow aged 91.

Lady Molyneux.

Admiral ſir George Bowyer.

Counteſs of Briſtol.

Mrs. Terry, of Bath, aged 82.

Janet Anderſon, aged 104.

Hon. John Wynn, only ſon of the right hon. lord Newborough.

PREFERMENT.

HON. and Rev. George Murray—Biſhop of St. David.

PROMOTIONS.

THE right hon. William Pitt, John Smyth, and Charles Small Pybus, eſqrs. Granville Leviſon Gower, eſq. (commonly called lord Gower) and John Hiley Addington, eſq.—commiſſioners for executing the office of treaſurer of the exchequer.

Lord Cadogan—to be viſcount Chelſea, in the county of Middleſex.

Lord Malmſbury—to be viſcount Fitz-Harris, of Hurn Court, Southampton, and earl of Malmeſbury.

BANKRUPTS. From the GAZETTE.

NOVEMBER 25.

H. APPLETON, and J. Appleton, Fenchurch-ſtreet, merchants.

F. Metcalf, Duke-ſtreet, Groſvenor-ſquare, cabinet-maker.

J. Jacob, Eye, Suffolk, brewer.

T. Alder, Queen-ſquare, Alderſgate-ſtreet, coal-merchant.

T. Cockett, Peckham, Surry, baker.

W. D. Appleby, Oxford, grocer.

NOVEMBER 29.

H. Lowndes, White Hart-row, Lambeth, bookſeller.

J. T. Smith, Hackney-road, coal-merchant.

C. Rice, Claines, Worceſterſhire, woolſtapler.

J. Irlam, Shap, Weſtmorland, innkeeper.

W. Marſh, Rocheſter, Kent, victualler.

F. Heath, Bath, ironmonger.

J. S. Stones, James-ſtreet, Weſtminſter, oilman.

R. Millard, St. James', Clerkenwell, victualler.

J. Smith, Oſſett, Yorkſhire, woolſtapler.

J. Wallis, Birmingham, carrier.

T. Wilſon, Cheſhunt, Hertfordſhire, maltſter.

DECEMBER 2.

W. Page, Ware, Hertfordſhire, maltſter.

H. Jacob, and J. Jacob, Milford, Pembrokeſhire, ſh p-builders.

J. Smith, Haſlingdon, Lancaſhire, corn-dealer.

J. Ayton, Charing-croſs, Staffordſhire, warehouſeman.

J. Richards, Goſport, Southampton, baker.

C. Bratt, Warrington, in Lancaſhire, linen-draper.

B. Needham, Doncaſter, ſacking-manufacturer.

DECEMBER 6.

W. Maron the younger, Richmond, grocer.

R. H. Armiſtead, Bradford, Yorkſhire, grocer.

G. Walker, Saffron-hill, carpenter.

Joſeph Braſbridge, Fleet-ſtreet, ſilverſmith.

G. Young, and G. Glennis, Budge-row, merchants.

J. Richards, Goſport, Southampton, baker.

T. Willis the younger, Robertſbridge, Suſſex, iron-worker.

P. Newman, Melkſham, in Wiltſhire, clothier.

W. Watkiſs, Raven-row, Spitalfields, carpenter.

W. Grayſon, White-lyon-ſtreet, Seven Dials, baker.

S. Stears, Leeds, in Yorkſhire, linen-draper.

J. Scott, Stratford, Eſſex, lime-burner.

DECEMBER 9.

W. Long, Pontefract, Yorkſhire, linen-draper.

H. Thornborrow, Little Bolton, Lancaſhire, cotton-manufacturer.

S. Bulman, Newcaſtle-upon-Tyne, corn dealer.

P. Davies, Blackfriars-road, hatter.

W. Rawlinſon, St. John-ſtreet, Staffordſhire-wareman.

DECEMBER 13.

E. Lane, Mathorn, in Worceſterſhire, dealer.

T. Parry, Birmingham, haberdaſher.

W. Stewart, Doncaſter, in Yorkſhire, hawker.

J. Cook, Royal-oak-yard, Bermondſey, tanner.

J. Lunn, Bedale, Yorkſhire, ſhop-keeper.

J. Green, Harborne, Staffordſhire, nail ironmonger.

J. Waldo, J. Francis and J. J. Waldo, Birmingham, merchants.

L. Kidd, Old-ſtreet, merchant.

G. Fletcher, Thornhaugh ſtreet, plaiſterer.

T. Bottomley, Liverpool, linen-draper.

DECEMBER 16.

J. Rothery, Chriſtopher's-alley, Moorfields, cabinet-maker.

W. Fower, Heywood, Lancaſhire, innkeeper.

S. Jones the younger, Minchinhampton, Glouceſterſhire, clothier.

N. Lucas, and C. Betke, Pancras-lane, merchants.

DECEMBER 20.

R. H. Philp, Fluſhing, in Cornwall, warehouſeman.

J. Moſes, Crakehall, Yorkſhire, and J. Lunn, Bedale, Yorkſhire, linen-manufacturers.

G. Singleton, Caſtle-ſtreet, Holborn, vender of medicines.

W. Bennett, Watling-ſtreet, warehouſeman.

J. Emett, Manchester, victualler.

J. Higham, Liverpool, linen-draper.

W. Dickie, Strand, ſtationer.

A. Milne, Hatton-garden, merchant.

T. Seabrook, Edgware-road, victualler.

J. Wells, and T. Beſt, Manchester, ſoap-boilers.

W. Bayley, Wakefield, in Yorkſhire, ironmonger.

G. T. Boult, Pimlico, malt-factor.

W. Holland, Southwark, Surry, linen-draper.

DECEMBER 23.

J. Quenby, Winchester, mercer.

T. Worthington, Manchester, merchant.

W. Day, King-ſtreet, Golden-ſquare, victualler.

J. Perry, Birmingham, button-maker.

DECEMBER 27.

E. Gilchriſt, and J. Barry, Liverpool, merchants.

S. Tinniſwood, Berwick-ſtreet, Soho, leather-ſeller.

T. Wraight, Canterbury, Kent, ſhop-keeper.

G. Rennie, Borough of Southwark, in Surry, coal-merchant.

S. Kerſhaw, Little Moſs, Lancaſhire, manufacturer.

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Chriſtened,		Buried,	
Males -	10112	Males -	11605
Females -	9064	Females -	11463
In all	19,176	In all	23,068

Whereof have died,

Under two years	6657	Seventy & eighty	1459
Between 2 & five	2553	Eighty and ninety	655
Five and ten	848	Ninety & a hundred	97
Ten and twenty	710	A hundred and one	1
Twenty & thirty	1582	A hundred and four	2
Thirty and forty	2055	A hundred and ſix	1
Forty and fifty	2308	A hundred and ſeven	1
Fifty and ſixty	2163	A hundred & eighteen	1
Sixty and ſeventy	1973	A hundred & twenty	2

Increaſed in the Burials this Year 4934.

AVERAGE PRICES of CORN.

December 20, 1800.

By the Winchester Quarter of 8 Buſhels.

Inland Counties.

	Wheat.		Rye.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Middleſex	142	1	76	11	70	2	45	7
Surry	141	4	72	0	74	10	46	0
Hertford	131	5	63	6	74	10	39	10
Bedford	136	9	103	2	75	2	37	4
Huntingdon	140	9	——		85	4	36	4
Northampton	130	0	88	0	72	8	36	0
Rutland	126	0	——		82	0	39	0
Leiceſter	128	11	——		88	1	41	1
Nottingham	136	1	——		84	0	53	0
Derby	134	4	——		77	4	45	4
Stafford	141	3	——		91	10	47	3
Salop	145	2	107	8	104	5	45	9
Hereford	137	6	80	0	80	6	42	8
Worceſter	162	0	96	0	90	8	48	5
Warwick	157	5	——		90	0	49	7
Wilts	149	4	——		74	4	40	8
Berks	147	6	——		76	6	42	0
Oxford	143	0	——		76	8	42	8
Bucks	135	4	——		75	0	38	8
Brecon	122	4	——		81	7	36	8
Montgomery	134	5	112	0	81	7	40	0
Radnor	131	4	——		78	3	36	2

Maritime Counties.

Eſſex	140	4	59	0	70	0	42	10
Kent	135	10	——		70	4	42	6
Suſſex	133	8	——		73	9	44	8
Suffolk	127	11	82	11	63	8	42	7
Cambridge	124	10	——		62	2	31	2
Norfolk	113	7	83	0	64	9	41	9
Lincoln	114	10	85	4	73	6	37	11
York	124	7	86	7	66	11	44	6
Durham	128	8	92	8	68	8	40	2
Northumberland	117	0	80	9	60	7	43	11
Cumberland	122	2	86	1	70	1	48	10
Weſtmorland	142	3	98	8	73	2	53	0
Lancaſter	136	1	——		82	1	55	6
Cheſter	134	5	——		——		59	6
Flint	114	2	——		95	3	46	4
Denbigh	131	5	——		92	2	49	4
Angleſea	——		——		76	0	——	
Carnarvon	112	8	60	0	68	8	37	0
Merioneth	123	6	91	0	75	4	31	6
Cardigan	116	6	——		62	6	29	0
Pembroke	104	4	——		65	6	33	10
Carmarthen	120	0	——		65	4	31	9
Glamorgan	133	4	——		88	8	36	2
Glouceſter	159	10	——		90	5	40	10
Somerſet	154	6	——		74	4	39	8
Monmouth	148	10	——		90	3	39	5
Devon	124	7	——		69	8	41	6
Cornwall	101	10	——		59	0	33	2
Dorſet	145	8	——		76	7	40	0
Hants	143	11	——		73	0	42	3

Average of England and Wales.

Per Quarter	133	0	85	3	76	7	41	8

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27	165 ½	63 ⅝	64½a164	82	100 ⅛	98	18 7/16			62 ⅛	11 ⅝	13. pre.		
28	165 ½	63 ⅛	63½a64⅛	81 ¾	100 ⅛	97 ¾	18 ⅜			62 ⅛		1		
29		63	63⅜a½	81 ¾	99 ⅛	97 ¼	18 ⅜	5 ⅛	205 ¾		11 ⅝	1		
1	164 ½	62 ¾	63⅜a62½	80 ⅞	99 ⅛	96 ¼	18 ⅜	5 ⅛		61 ⅛	11 ½	1	16 15 0	
2	163 ¾	62	63⅜a½	80	98 ⅛	95 ¼	18 ⅜	5 ⅛	203 ½	60 ⅞	11 ⅝	par		
3		62 ¼	shut.	80	98 ⅛	95 ⅛	18 ⅜	5 ⅛	203 ½	61	11 ⅝	par	16 15 0	
4	162 ½	62 ¼	63⅛a62¾	80 ⅛	shut.	95 ⅛	18 ⅜	5 ⅛	204	60 ⅞	11 ½	par		
5	161 ¾	62	63⅛a63	79 ¼		95 ¼	18 ⅜		shut.	60 ¾		13. pre.		
6		62 ⅛	63⅛a⅜	79 ¼		95 ⅛	18 ⅜			60 ¾	11 ⅜	par		
8		62	63⅜a62⅜	79 ¼		95	18 ⅜			60 ¼	11 ⅜	par		
9	161	61 ⅝	62⅜a⅝	79 ¼		94 ¾	18 ⅜			60 ½	11 ¼	13. dif.	16 16 0	
10	158	61	62⅜a61⅞	78 ¼		93	17 7/8	5 ⅛		60		1		
11	159	61 ⅛	62⅛a½	78		93 ¼	17 7/8	5 ⅛		59 ¾	11	1	16 16 0	
12	159	61 ⅛	62⅛a⅝	78		93 ¼	18	5 ⅛		59 ⅝	11 ⅛	1		
13	159 ¼	61 ⅛	62⅜a⅝	77 7/8		93 ⅜	18			59 ½	11 ⅜	par	16 16 0	
15		61 ⅛	62⅜a½	77 7/8		93 ⅜	18			59 ⅜		13. dif.		
16	160	61 ⅛	62⅜a63	78		93 ⅜	18			60	11 ⅛	13. pre.		
17		61 ⅛	62⅜a63¼	78 ⅛		94 ⅛	18 ⅛			60	11 ½	par		
18	160 ⅛	61 ⅛	62⅜a½	78 ⅛		93 ⅜	18	5 ⅛		60	11 ⅛	par		
19	160 ⅛	61 ⅛	62⅜a½	78 ⅛		93 ⅜	18	5 ⅛		60	11 ⅛	par		
20	159 ¾	61 ⅛	62⅜a⅝	78 ⅛		93 ⅜	18			59 ½	11 ⅛	par		
22		61 ⅛	62⅜a½	78 ⅛		93 ⅜	18			59 ⅞		13. dif.		
23	160	61 ⅛	62⅜a63	78 ⅛		93 ⅜	18			60	11 ⅛	1		
24		61 ⅛	62⅜a⅞	78 ½		94	18	5 ¼		60 ⅛	11 ¼	13. pre.		
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